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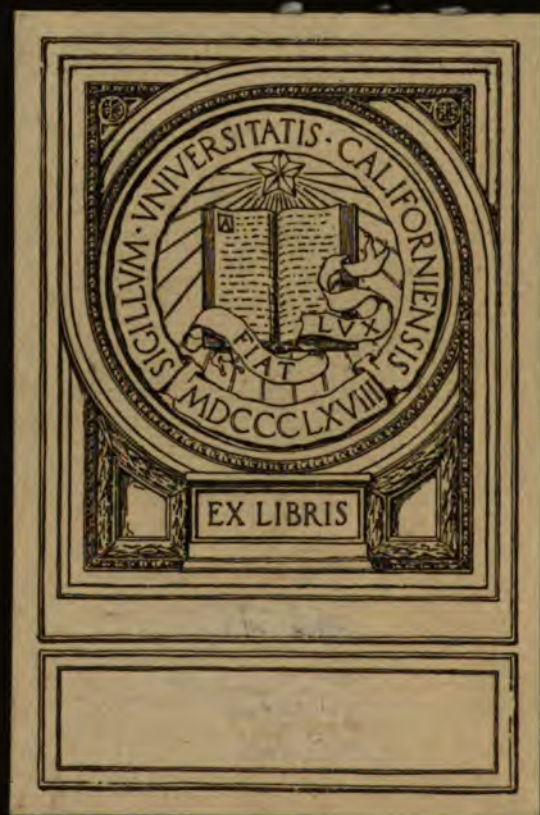
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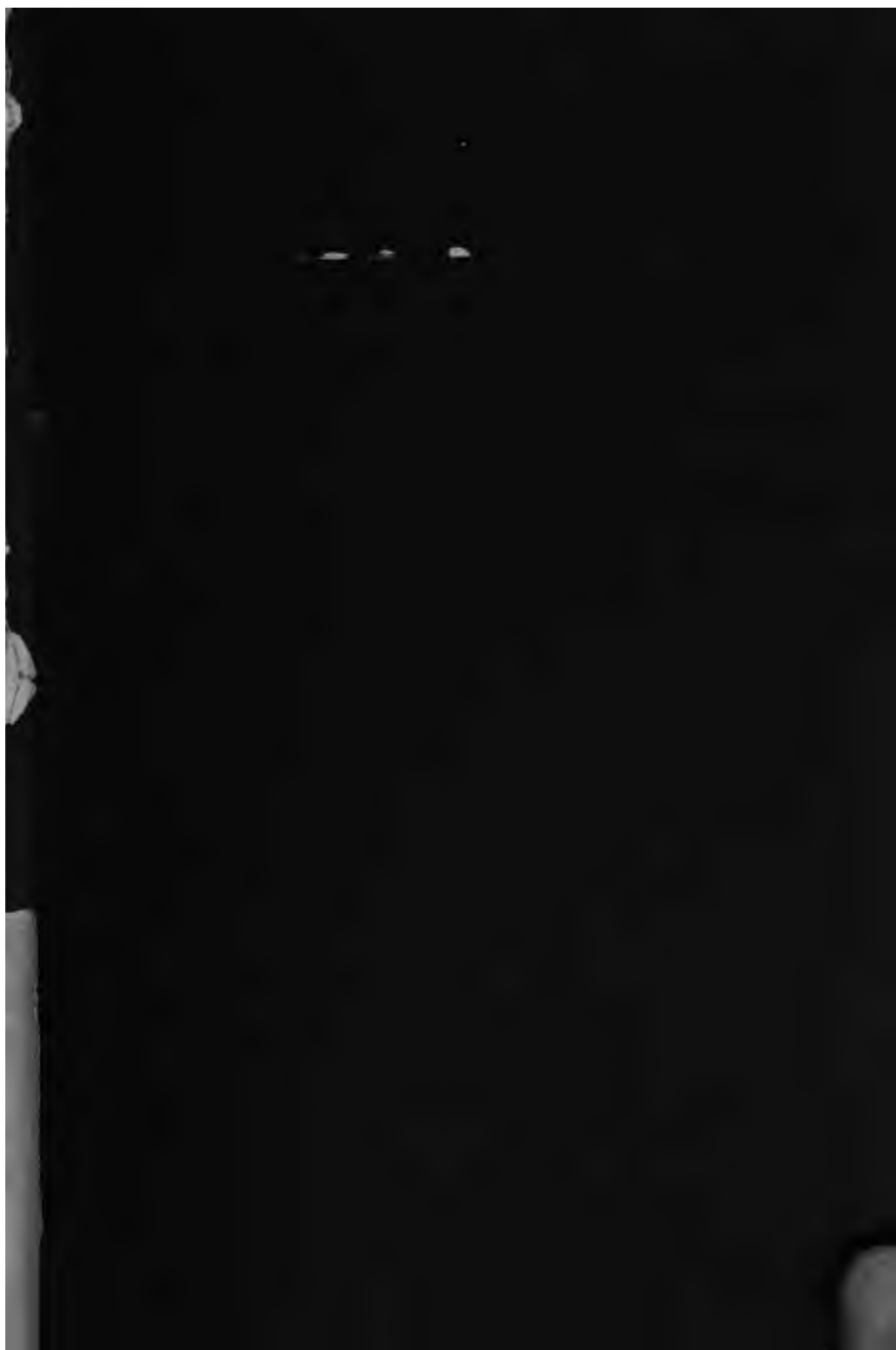
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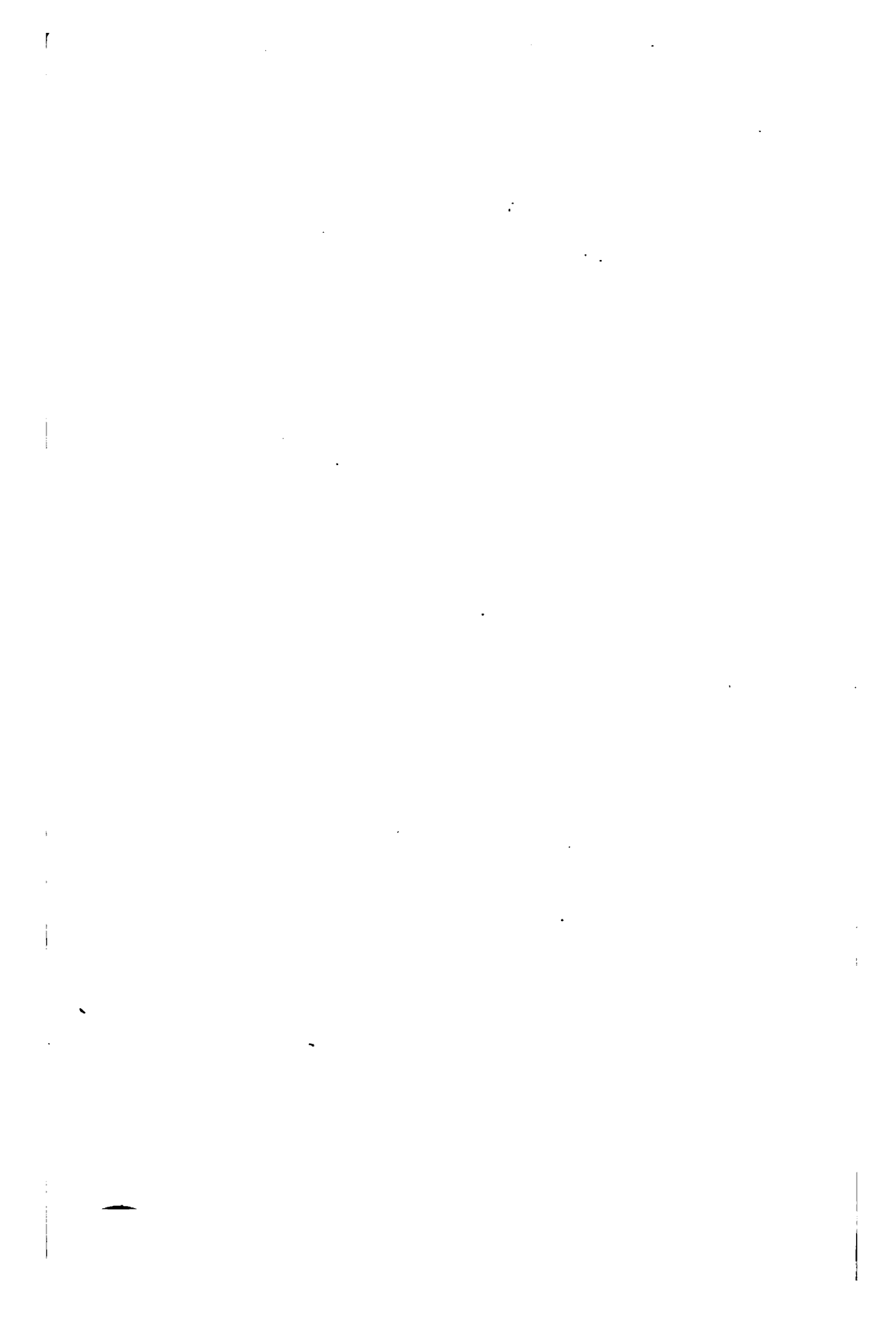
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COLLECTIONS
FOR A
HISTORY
OF
STAFFORDSHIRE

EDITED BY

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

VOLUME VIII.

1887

LONDON:
HARRISON AND SONS, ST. MARTIN'S LANE,
Printers in Ordinary to Her Majesty.

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S. 69 W5
v. 2

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PRINTERS IN ORDINARY TO HER MAJESTY,
ST. MARTIN'S LANE.

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v. 2

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

GENERAL MEETING, 18TH OCTOBER, 1887.

The Ninth General Meeting of the Subscribers was held at the William Salt Library, Stafford, on Tuesday, the 18th October, 1887, The Right Hon. Lord Wrottesley in the Chair. There were also present: The Dean of Lichfield, Major-General the Hon. G. Wrottesley, Mr. Thomas Salt, M.P., Dr. Arlidge, Mr. W. S. Brough, Mr. Fenton, the Rev. W. Fletcher, Mr. J. Nayler, the Rev. F. Parker, Mr. F. C. Perry, Mr. Whitgreave, Mr. Mazzinghi, and others.

The following Report of the Editorial Committee was read to the Meeting by the Honorary Secretary :—

The Editorial Committee submit to the Council and Subscribers an account of their proceedings during the past year :—

Vol. VII. was issued to the members of the Society in July this year, considerably later than usual, or was anticipated at the last Meeting, the issues having been delayed through various causes. The printing of Vol. VIII. is about half completed, and this volume will be probably issued to subscribers early in 1888. Its contents consist of a Paper on the Military Service performed by Staffordshire tenants during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, compiled by the Honorary Secretary from the original records of the wars of that period. The remainder of the first part of the volume will be occupied by a chartulary of St. Thomas of Stafford, which has been compiled by Mr. Parker from the Chetwynd MSS. and from original deeds in the possession of the Trustees of the late Sir Thomas Phillips.

Part II. of the volume will contain a History of the Parish of Castre or Castle Church, by the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Mazzinghi, taken from the Stafford MSS. at Blithfield, and

other original sources. The forthcoming volume will be somewhat reduced in size, in order to diminish to some extent the deficit caused by the abnormal bulk of Volumes V. and VI.

During the past year four of the subscribers have died, six have withdrawn, and five new subscribers have joined the Society : the net loss therefore in the number of annual subscribers will be five.

The Report having been approved, the accounts for the past year were laid before the Meeting. These showed a deficit of £70, and the question of reducing the expenditure by the issue of a smaller volume was taken into consideration. After some debate, it was resolved that future volumes should be reduced as nearly as practicable to 300 pages, and that measures should be adopted to increase if possible the number of subscribers to the Society.

After the usual votes of thanks to the Contributors and Officers of the Society, the Meeting separated.

CORRIGENDA.

Page 2, line 31. The Ralph de Peschale here mentioned was probably Ralph de Peschale of Suffolk. This Ralph appeared in Banco at Easter Term, 15 Henry III., and acknowledged he had granted the manor of Peschale in Suffolk to Roger le Bigod and Isabel his wife. Banco Roll, 15 Henry III., Easter term.

Page 39, line 17. For Roger de Somery read John de Somery.

Page 40, line 20. For Roger de Somery read John de Somery.

Page 126, line 11, from foot note of page, insert a comma after *view*.

Page 125. For Thirlestane, read *Thirlestane*.

Page 134, line 29. For Reparandum, read *reparandum*.

Page 135, note 2. For Celestinus, read *Celestinus*.

Page 136, line 28. For tertiore, read *tertiove*.

Page 144. Appruare, "one of many forms of a word appearing in Ed. I.'s Statute of Merton, meaning improvement of waste lands." (Bp. Hobhouse.)

Page 145, line 17. For etusic, read *et sic*.

Page 160, note 2. Stephano de Wiðdestun (Wiverdeston, i.e., *Worston*).

Page 161, note 1. Stretton is Stretton near *Brewood*.

Page 169, 4 lines from foot of page. For que, read *quam*.

Page 146, line 21. Quercūmv., omit *v*:

Page 152, line 33. For ipse, read *ipso*.

Page 177, line 10. Ruhelawe is *Rowley* near Stafford.

Page 178, line 22. For predico, read *predicto*.

Page 179. "Penilton," now *Pendleton*.

Page 182, note 2. Maculine, better *Malcolm*.

Page 184, note 3. "The manor of Marston came close up to, and into, what is now the Foregate of Stafford, and formed part of the Borough," Mr. Mazzinghi informs me.

Page 185, line 9. For R. de Swinfen, read *de Swinnerton*.—Foot of page, *denarios*, not *denariost*.—Note 2. Uncut, read uncertainty.—Note 5. Omit this: as the principal bridge is perhaps here intended.

Page 186. The references to notes, ten lines from foot of page, should be 5 and 6, not 1 and 2.

Page 187, line 10. For extendunt, read *extendentes*.

Page 193, last line. For 1150, read *1250*.—Note 6. For Cotlon, read *Colton*.

Page 194, note 3. For Thursday, read *Wednesday*.

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The William Salt Archaeological Society.

1887.

COUNCIL.

Trustees of the William Salt Library.

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THE HON. AND REV. CANON BRIDGEMAN.
THE VEN. ARCHDEACON LANE.
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CAPTAIN CONGREVE.

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BANKERS.

LLOYD'S, BARNETT'S, & BOSANQUET'S BANK (LIMITED), STAFFORD.

RULES OF THE SOCIETY.

I.—That the Society be called the “WILLIAM SALT ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.”

II.—The leading object of the Society shall be the editing and printing of original documents relating to the County of Stafford, to which, however, may be added papers selected by an Editorial Committee, illustrative of the same, or coming under any of the eight following heads :—

- (a) Abstracts of the Monastic Chartularies, and of Ancient Family Deeds, with the names of witnesses and fac-similies of seals; Genealogies of Nobility and Gentry (accompanied by proofs), Heraldic Visitations, and other papers touching the general history and descent of properties and families.
- (b) Printing and editing of the Public Records relating to the County, including the Exchequer or Pipe Rolls, the Assize Rolls, Fine Rolls, Inquisitions, Perambulations of Forests, Subsidy Rolls, and Assessments, &c., &c.
- (c) History of Parishes and of Manors, and of Manorial Customs and Tenures, illustrated by Copies of, or reference to, original grants.
- (d) Church Notes hitherto unpublished, such as Ecclesiastical Surveys, Extracts from Episcopal and Parish Registers, Copies of Epitaphs, and Description of Monuments and Ecclesiastical Buildings, Abstracts or Copies of Wills, &c.
- (e) Notices of British and Roman Remains, and Roads and Buildings, and the Antiquities generally of the District.
- (f) Autograph Letters and other Documents relating to the Civil War.
- (g) Notices of distinguished Worthies, Broadshires, Election Squibs, &c.
- (h) Correspondence, in which enquiries may be made and answered, on any of the above subjects, and miscellaneous information, including corrections of errors.

III.—The general affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Council of ten, of whom five shall be trustees of the William Salt Library, and nominated by them, from time to time, and five shall be elected at an Annual Meeting of the Subscribers. The Council shall be empowered to delegate, if they see fit, the selection of the papers to be printed, to an Editorial Committee. Of the Council, three shall be a quorum, and in case of equality of votes, their Chairman shall have a casting vote.

IV.—The Officers of the Society shall be a Treasurer, a Secretary, and an Auditor, to be appointed by the Council. These Offices shall be honorary, but the Council shall have power to appoint an Assistant Secretary to be paid at the discretion of the Council, as the nature of his duties may warrant.

V.—The Subscription shall be One Guinea annually, to be paid in advance, upon the first of January in each year, and such annual payment shall entitle each Subscriber to the volume issued for the year of such subscription. Any Subscriber shall be permitted to withdraw from the Society by giving notice of his intention three months before the termination of any year of Subscription.

N.B.—To save trouble, it is recommended that the Members of the Society pay their subscriptions to the Society's bankers by revocable order upon their own bankers, a printed form for which may be obtained from the Assistant Secretary.

STATE OF NEW YORK
BALANCE SHEET OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR BETWEEN
SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1886. AND SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1887.

• This should have been included in the Balance Sheet of last year, but the account was not received in time.

(Signed) GEORGE WROTTESELEY, MAJOR-GENERAL, *Hon. Secretary.*

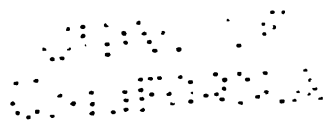
Audited and found correct, 10.10.87,
W. CONGREVE, *Hon. Auditor.*

* This should have been included in the Balance Sheet of last year, but the account was not received in time.

COMPARISON WITH BANK BOOK.

Subscriptions to Vol. VIII. before 15th September, 1886 (6)	..	..	..	..	..	£	s.	d.
" " " between 15th September, 1886, and 15th September, 1887 (149)	..	..	..	..	..	6	6	0
" " Vol. IX. before 15th September, 1887 (7)	..	..	..	..	..	156	9	0
Unexplained payments, credited Foley, 12.3.87 (probably paid second time in error by Mazzinghi)	..	..	..	..	..	7	7	0
Parker, 23.11.86	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	0
Carriage (Swynnerton) with subscriptions.	..	..	..	..	..	0	16	0
	..	..	..	..	..	0	1	3
Less loss as above	..	..	..	..	..	Total	172	0
Balance as per Bank Book to date..	..	..	..	..	..	70	1	1
	..	..	..	..	..	101	19	2

Audited and found correct, 10.10.87,
(Signed) W. CONGREVE, Hon. Auditor.



NOTES

ON THE

MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY
STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS

DURING THE

THIRTEENTH AND FOURTEENTH CENTURIES.

AN authentic record of military service performed in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries has been handed down to us by the writs of protection issued to those who applied for them whilst employed in the service of the King. These, as a rule, were men against whom personal actions were pending, and who wished to protect their property from legal process during their absence. Before the reign of Edward I. the writs of protection were enrolled amongst the Patents, but with the commencement of the reign of Edward I. separate Rolls were kept for all writs issued on the occasion of a war. These Rolls are named after the locality of the war, and are headed Scotia, Wallia, Vasconia, Alemannia, and Francia. All the writs of historical interest from these Rolls have been printed by Rymer, but the writs of protection, having a personal interest only, were omitted except in a very few cases by the compilers of the "Foedera" and the following notes have been taken to supply this deficiency, so far as the Staffordshire tenants are concerned.

The writ of protection ran as follows:—

Edwardus Dei gratiâ Rex., etc., Omnibus ballivis et fidelibus suis ad quos etc., Sciatis quod suscepimus in protectione et defensione nostrâ A.B. qui in obsequio nostro, in comitatu dilecti et fidelis nostri C.D. in partibus, etc., moratur, homines, terras, redditus et omnes possessiones ipsius A.B., ideo mandamus quod ipsum A.B. homines, etc. mantineatis, protegatis et defendatis. In cuius rei testimonium, etc.

2 MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

This was the simple writ of protection. The writ "*cum clausula Volumus*" contained the following additional clause:—

"*Volumus etiam quod idem A.B. sit quietus de omnibus placitis et querelis exceptis placitis de dote et de assisis nove dissaissine et ultime presentationis et attinctis et exceptis loquelis quas coram Justiciariis nostris itinerantibus in itineribus suis summoneri contigit.*"

The writ, it will be perceived, gave complete protection against all personal actions, and likewise against any pleas in the superior courts of law, except pleas of dower and of last presentation.

14 HEN. III.

In the fourteenth year of his reign, A.D. 1230, Henry III. assembled a large army at Portsmouth for the invasion of France, passed over into Brittany, and landed at St. Malo on the 5th May. He was there joined by the Duke of Brittany and many Breton nobles, and marched through Anjou and Poitou to Gascony. Whilst in Gascony he received the homage of the Gascon nobility, and returned to England in October, without having achieved anything of note or at all commensurate with his preparations and expenditure.

The Patent Roll of 14. Hen. III. contains several letters of protection for those who had set out "*ad partes transmarinas*," dated from Portsmouth 20th April; amongst them are the following Staffordshire tenants:—

Ralph Basset of Drayton.	Geoffrey de St. Maur.
William de Aldithele (cum Henrico de Aldithele).	Ralph Basset of Welledon.
William de Dustun.	Henry de Aldithele (Audley).
Adam Mauveisin) cum R. Basset de Drayton).	Hervey de Stafford.
John fitz Philip.	Nicholas de Verdun.
Roger de Somery.	William Basset.
	Hugh de Oddingesela.
	Ralph de Pesehale.

37 HEN. III.

In the 37th year of his reign, on the 6th August, 1253, Henry III. set sail from Portsmouth with over 300 ships filled with troops, in order to suppress an insurrection in Gascony; and being joined there by the Earl of Leicester, who brought additional forces out of France, the Gascons submitted to his authority, and the authors of the sedition were either taken prisoners or driven out of the country. This was the only military exploit of Henry III. which met with any success.

The Patent Roll of 37 Hen. III. shows that the following Staffordshire tenants took out letters of protection for this expedition; they are dated from Portsmouth 8th July :—

John de Chetwinde.	Ralph de Arderne.
Walkeline de Arderne.	Adam Mauveysin.

The following had similar letters dated from Sutton 30th May :—

William le Blund.	Robert de Stafford.
Peter de St. Maur.	Adam de Brimton.
Philip Marmion.	Warine fitz Gerold
John de Kaumville.	Geoffrey de Genville.
John de Verdun.	Richard de Alazun.
Roger de Somery.	Roger de Monhaut.
William Hose.	

41 HEN. III.

In the year 1257 the Welsh, under Llewellyn, invaded the English marches, and defeated Prince Edward and the Lord Marchers; the Chronicle states that the King "sore moved thereat, determined to go himself into Wales, whereupon raising a great power, he hasted forth, and coming into Wales, put the rebels in such fear, that they withdrew to their accustomed places of refuge. The King would fain have had them forth that he might have punished them according to their deserts, and therefore to bring his purpose the better to pass, he sent for an army of soldiers into Ireland, and tarried for their coming at the Castle of Brecknock; but the year was far spent ere his people could be gathered, so that by the advice of his lords he strengthened certain castles and returned into England, leaving the Lord Roger Mortimer his Lieutenant in Wales, to resist the rebels."

The Patent Roll of 41 Hen. III. has an entry to the effect that Magister Thomas de Pivelesdon (Puleston), who had gone to Ireland on the King's service, has letters of protection, etc. Dated from Merton, 24th April.

By writ dated from Coventry, 24th July, the King directs Roger de Somery to proceed to Glamorgan, "*cum toto servitio suo*," for the defence of those parts against the Welsh.

By writ dated from his camp at Albergelen 25th August, the King gives power to Urian de St. Pierre to admit to his peace all Welshmen except those which the King had specially enjoined should not be admitted on any account. Letters of protection dated

4 MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

Woodstock, 1st October, were granted to the following, who were in Wales with Edward the King's son, viz., Roger de Somery, Walter de Huggeford, and John de Arderne, who was in the retinue of Walkeline de Arderne.

On the same Roll, *m. 7, verso*, appear several letters of protection granted to those who had set out for Wales with R. Earl of Norfolk in the King's service. Dated from Chester, 10th August, 1257. Amongst these occur the following Staffordshire tenants:—

Ralph le Botyller.	Peter Giffard.
Philip Marmion.	Ralph Basset of Drayton.
John de Burgh.	Roger de Monhaut.
Warine fitz Gerold.	Walter de Somerville.

In this year also letters of protection were granted to those who had gone to Germany with Richard Earl of Cornwall, the King's brother, who had been lately elected King of the Romans. The Earl took with him to Cologne a brilliant suit of nobles and Knights, and amongst them I find the names of Hugh le Despencer and James de Audeley.

THE BARONS' WAR, 48 TO 51 HEN. III.

A.D. 1264 TO A.D. 1266.

The most important events however of this reign are those connected with the rebellion of the Barons under Simon de Montfort, the Earl of Leicester.

In some suits *Coram Rege* of Hillary Term, 56 Hen. III., respecting the amount of redemption to be paid for the forfeited estates of Henry de Verdun and Hugh de Weston, it was testified that the whole of the county of Stafford was against the King, and juries from the counties of Worcester and Warwick were summoned in consequence to decide the cases. The Chronicles however bear testimony to the loyalty of three at least of the principal tenants of Staffordshire. These were Philip Marmion, James de Audeley, and Roger de Somery. On the other hand, Robert Earl of Ferrars, and Hugh le Despencer the Justiciary of England, and Ralph Basset of Drayton took a leading part in favour of Simon de Montfort and his adherents. With regard to the head of the House of Stafford there is no evidence as to the part he took. Robert de Stafford at this time was a man advanced in life, and it is probable he remained neutral during the strife. Of the lesser

tenants, William Bagot of the Hyde, Adam de Brimpton, William Wyther, and Hugh de Okeover, remained loyal to the Crown. The following are shown by the Rolls¹ to have been in arms against the King :—

Robert de Staundon.	Richard de Loges.
Henry de Verdun of Darlaston.	Gilbert le Mareschal of Aston.
Philip de Mutton.	Richard de Bromley.
William de Handsacre.	William de Harecourt.
William Trumwyne.	Bertram de Burgo.
Robert de Pipe.	William de Rideware.
John fitz Philip.	Jordan de Pulestone.
Hugh de Weston.	Richard de Flotesbroc (Flashbrook).
Geoffrey de Gresley.	Richard de Vernon.
John de Audley of Blore.	Philip Noel.
Robert de Knighteley.	Giles de Erdington.
Henry de Charnes.	Robert de Melbourne of Hoar-cross.
Roger Bagot of Brinton.	Geoffrey de Aston.
William de Parles.	Henry de Wyverstone.
Roger de Walton.	
John de Swynnerton.	

Two deeds at Wrottesley, which are compositions under the Dictum of Kenilworth, show also that Hugh de Wrottesley was in rebellion against the King, and had forfeited his estates, and a deed in the Huntbach MSS. seems to imply the same of Robert de Essington. The Stone Chartulary shows also that Richard de Forsbrok had been forced to redeem his estate at this period.²

By a writ on the Patent Roll of 48 Hen. III., dated from Lewes, 13th May, *i.e.*, on the eve of the battle, the King granted to James de Aldithele for his good service the custody of the lands and heirs of Robert de Beauchamp, who had married Joan daughter of the said James, and who had died whilst under age, and in ward to the King. James de Audley escaped after the battle of Lewes, and took refuge in the marches of Wales.

A few days after the battle had been fought, *viz.*, on the 4th June, the King appointed a "Custos pacis" in every county in England. This is the first notice we have of this office on the

¹ Plea Rolls printed in Vol. IV. of "Staffordshire Collections," pages 159, 169, 172, and 185.

² Many others could have been added to this list, but I have named only lords of manors.

Rolls. The custodians of peace appointed on this occasion were selected from the most trusted adherents of Simon de Montfort; they appear to have superseded the Sheriffs, and to have wielded almost despotic power in the counties.

Ralph Basset of Drayton was the *custos* appointed for Staffordshire, and this appointment explains the plea of Henry de Verdun in a suit *Coram Rege* that he with many others of the county had been compelled to take up arms against the King by Ralph Basset of Drayton. (Plea Rolls, Vol. IV., p. 165.)

The King by writ of 27th August, on the Patent Roll of 50 Hen. III., grants letters of protection to William de Rideware, but with a proviso that he is to stand to his trial for his transgression in the late rebellion.

By a writ on the Patent Roll of the following year, the King remits all his indignation and rancour against the following who had adhered to Simon de Montfort in the late dissensions, viz.:—

William de Parles, Knight of the said Earl.

Roger de Pynlesdon (Pulestone), Clerk to the said Earl.

John Paynel, *Vallettus* of the said Earl, and

Roger de Miners, *Bachilarius* of the said Earl.

This writ is dated from St. Paul's, 25th June; by a later writ dated from Kenilworth, 14th November, the King, at the intercession of the Queen, remits all his indignation, etc., against John fitz Philip for the part he had taken in the late disturbances. Another writ on the same Roll states that the King, at the instance of Alan la Zouch, grants to Orabel and Margaret the daughters of William de Harecourt, nieces of the said Alan, the redemption according to the Dictum of Kenilworth of William's manors of Tonge and Aylston, in the King's hand on account of the transgressions of the said William during the late disturbances.

By a writ on the Patent Roll of 53 Hen. III., the King remits all his rancour and indignation against Richard de Vernun, but he is to abide by the Dictum of Kenilworth.

The following Staffordshire tenants are known to have fallen at the battle of Evesham, viz., Hugh le Despencer, Ralph Basset of Drayton, Richard Trussel of Cubleston, and William de Bermingham. The deaths on this occasion of the latter fighting against the King, whilst his superior lord, Roger de Somery, was one of the staunchest supporters of the Royal authority, shows how completely the feudal tie had been dissolved at this period.

A.D. 1277.

The subjugation of Wales by Edward I. forms one of the most interesting events of his reign. Before his time the English Kings had been almost invariably worsted in their contests with that country. The feudal levies serving for a short space of time only, could make no permanent impression on a race of mountaineers who retired into their fastnesses with their cattle on the approach of an enemy, and sallied forth again on his retirement or on his dispersion to collect supplies. Edward however was a master of the art of war, and his military instinct told him that the strategical points of a mountainous country were the plains, from which the sustenance of the population was derived, and not the hills; and by occupying the former, he eventually compelled Llewellyn the Prince of North Wales, under the privations of famine, to throw himself on his mercy. In this war David the brother of Llewellyn, and Prince of South Wales, fought on the side of the English, and Edward also obtained the assistance of Rees ap Meredyth, the representative of the ancient princes, who gladly took the field against the chief of a rival family.

The military tenants of the Crown were summoned to meet the King at Worcester on the Octaves of St. John the Baptist (1st July, 1277), by writ dated from Windsor 12th December, 1276.

The Staffordshire tenants personally summoned¹ on this occasion were:—

Edmund Earl of Lancaster, the	John fitz Philip.
King's brother.	Robert Baron of Stafford.
Henry de Erdington.	Geoffrey de Geynville.
Geoffrey de Caunville.	Ralph Basset of Weledon.
Ralph Basset of Sapecote.	The Bishop of Coventry and
Ralph Basset of Drayton.	Lichfield, and
William de Aldithele.	Margaret Countess of Ferrars.

The military tenants were summoned to attend the King with horses and arms and all the service which they owed to him. The writ to the ecclesiastics and to women orders them to have the service which they owe ready at Worcester on the day named to proceed with the King against Llewellyn the Prince of Wales and his accomplices.

¹ All those personally summoned served, I think, as bannerets, i.e., they displayed their own banner, and brought into the field a retinue of knights and squires.

8 MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

The Marshal's Roll of this expedition has been preserved amongst the Tower Miscellaneous Records, and has been printed by the Record Commissioners.

The following Staffordshire tenants appeared before Humfrey de Bohun Earl of Hereford, the Constable, and R. le Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, the Marshal, and acknowledged the service which they owed :—¹

The Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield acknowledged to owe the service of two Knights, for which he made fine in the King's wardrobe as above.²

Margaret de Ferrars acknowledged she owed the service of two and a half Knights. (It is not specified how to be performed).

Henry de Erdington acknowledged the service of one-third of a Knight's fee for a manor in Shropshire, but which was now held by Walter de Aylesbury.

Philip Marmion's service of three Knights' fees was performed by Ralph le Botiller, junior, and two other Knights. Philip Marmion at this date was an old man, and died shortly afterwards. Ralph le Botiller was married to Matilda, one of his daughters, and eventually one of the co-heiresses of the Baron.

Hugh le Blunt acknowledged the service of two Sergeants for Pencriz, each with coats of mail, and one with a horse caparisoned with steel, and the other with a horse without caparisons, and to be performed by himself and Henry le Blund as Sergeants, and he asked permission to perform the service by two quarantines.³

Adam de Brinton acknowledged the service of one Knight, for Langford (Longford), to be performed by himself as a Knight.⁴

Nicholas le Archer acknowledged the service of a Sergeant on foot with a bow and twenty-five arrows, to be performed by Edward Motun (owing for land in Gloucestershire).

William de Parles acknowledged the service of one-fourth of a Knight's fee in Watford, Northamptonshire, the inheritance of his wife, to be performed by himself as a Knight.

Robert de Bromlegh acknowledged the service of one-third part

¹ Parliamentary Writs and Writs of Military Summons, Vol. I., p. 197.

² The fine was at the rate of 40 marks in lieu of the service of a Knight. The service acknowledged on these occasions was for the demesne of the barony only.

³ The service was owing for forty days.

⁴ The service of a Knight could be performed by two Sergeants in place of a Knight. The Sergeants were men-at-arms as heavily accoutred as a Knight, but they did not bring into the field as many followers.

of half a Knight's fee in Essel (Ashley), Suffolk,¹ to be performed by himself as a Sergeant.

John de Eyton for himself and Robert de Bromlegh acknowledged the service of a Sergeant with aketun, hauberk, bacinet, and lance, with a horse, to be performed by himself the said John.

Nicholas le Archer acknowledged the service of carrying the King's bow in Wales for forty days, at his own expense for his lands in Sybertoft, Northamptonshire,¹ to be performed by himself as a Sergeant.

William de Perton acknowledged the service of a Sergeant on horseback, with aketun, hauberk, bacinet, sword and lance, to be performed by himself for eight days, and if the King required him for a longer period, he found him in necessities.

John de Orreby acknowledged the service of a fourth part of a Knight's fee in Alrewas for Roger de Someville, who was an old man (*senex*), to be performed by the said John as a Sergeant.

Henry de Erdington acknowledged the service of a Knight for Wellington and Saubiri (Shawbury), co. Salop, to be performed by himself as a Knight. He also acknowledged the service of a fourth part of a Knight's fee in Barwe, co. Leicester, and the eighth of a Knight's fee in Caumpden, co. Gloucester, to be performed by William de Thumbelake as a Sergeant.

Geoffrey de Caunville performed the service of two Knights for his land in Devon for forty days.

Oliver de Langford acknowledged the service he owed for his sergeanty in Derbyshire, viz., a pack horse worth 5s. with a canvas sack and a spike, to be performed by Roger Skakeloff.

One of the stipulations made with Llewellyn was that he should hold Anglesea in fee of the English Crown, by a yearly rent of a thousand marks. On the Welsh Roll of 9 E. I. there occurs a writ appointing Magister William de Perton² to receive 500 marks from Lewel, son of Griffin Prince of Wales, which the said Prince should pay to the Treasury at Chester at Michaelmas for the land of Anglesey.

¹ Suff is printed by mistake for Staff. in the Record.

² Nicholas le Archer of Sybertoft occurs frequently in the Plea Rolls, Vols. VI. and VII., of "Staffordshire Collections." The reader will note here the origin of his sobriquet or surname.

³ This William de Perton was *Custos Garderoba Regis*, and a member, I think, of the Staffordshire family of that name. Leo de Perton, a younger son of Sir John de Perton of Perton, was *Pannetarius Regis temp.* E. III.

10 MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

WELSH WAR, 10 E. I.

In 10 Edw. I., A.D. 1282, Llewellyn and David the two Welsh Princes, having made up their differences, attempted to throw off the English yoke. In the spring of 1282, in the darkness of the night, and during a violent storm, David suddenly surprised the Castle of Hawardyn, killed many of the Knights and Squires who formed the garrison, and carried off Roger de Clifford, the Justiciary, a prisoner into the hills.

By writ dated from Stanley, 25th March, Roger de Mortimer, Peter Corbet, John le Estrange, William de Aldithel, Robert de Mortimer, William le Boteler, and Roger de Sumery were ordered to take the field against the Welsh at once, *cum toto posse suo*, the Welsh having burnt the Castles of Hawardyn and Flynt, and killed many of the garrison, and taken prisoner Roger de Clifford who was in charge.

The same writs were sent to the Sheriffs of cos. Salop. Wygorn, Stafford, Hereford, and Gloucester, for the protection of the Marches before the military tenants could be assembled.

Writs of military summons were issued from Devises 6th April, commanding the military tenants of the Crown to be at Worcester at Pentecost.

Of Staffordshire tenants *in capite* appear the names of Geoffrey de Geneville, Richard Basset of Weldon, Roger de Sumery, Richard de Harcourt, Theobald de Verdun, Nicholas le Baron of Stafford, and John fitz Philip.

By writ dated 7th April all the King's subjects are warned against supplying the Welsh rebels with any provisions or arms or other necessities.

By writ dated 15th April the various Sheriffs are ordered to provide for the King's forces carpenters and sappers (*carpentarios et fossatores*). The cos. of Salop and Stafford were to provide 15 carpenters and 40 sappers, and the other counties in proportion to their population. Lincolnshire was to provide 40 carpenters and 150 sappers. The total number to be supplied was 310 carpenters and 1,000 sappers, to be assembled at Chester on the Octaves of Trinity. The Sheriffs to pay them wages up to that date.

The Constable at Bordeaux was ordered to send provisions for the King's use, viz., 2,000 quarters of wheat, 300 quarters of peas and beans, 1,000 quarters of barley, 500 dolias of wine, 1,000 hogs, etc., to be delivered to the King's commissaries whose names were given.

John de Greilly the Seneshall of Gascony was ordered to send 40 good crossbowmen on foot, and 12 on horseback.

The Sheriffs of Essex, Surrey, Sussex, Kent, and Southampton were ordered to supply provisions, and send them to Winchelsea, by writ dated 14th April.

Writs *de conducto*, i.e., of safe conduct, occur for William de Beauchamp, who was to bring from France 24 large horses (*equos magnos*), and for Walter de Beauchamp, who was to bring 12 of the same. These were probably for the King's personal use.

Proclamations were to be made by the Sheriffs of Salop, Gloucester, and Hereford that no markets were to be held in those counties, except at Oswestry, or other places where Roger de Mortimer the *capitaneus* might be, until further orders.

A similar writ was sent to the Sheriffs of cos. Stafford, Lancaster, Derby, and the Justice of Wales, substituting Chester for Oswestry.

A writ to Sheriffs of counties orders them to proclaim publicly with all despatch in all hundreds, boroughs, or market towns throughout their bailiwicks, that all those who hold of the King *in capite* by military service, and are fit to bear arms, are to be prepared with horses and arms to proceed with the King against the Welsh; and those who are not fit to bear arms to send fit substitutes for the same service, and to be at Rothelan on the Saturday the morrow of the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula next ensuing. Dated from Worcester (20th May).

Similar writs were sent to all Archbishops, Bishops, and the Abbots of 21 monasteries, and to the Prior of Coventry. A writ of military summons orders all the principal tenants of the Crown to be present on the same date at Rhudlan. Dated from Hertelbyrie, 24th May. Of Staffordshire tenants summoned appear the names of Geoffrey de Geneville, John fitz Philip, Richard Basset of Welledon, Geoffrey de Camville, Ralph Basset of Drayton, William de Addelegh (Audley), and Robert Baron of Stafford.

The King by a writ dated from Chester 15th June grants exemption to the Prior of St. Thomas near Stafford for one cart to carry his corn from the vill of Stafford to his house, and which is not to be taken for the King's service on any pretext.

A writ to all Sheriffs of counties states that there being a great want of large horses within the Kingdom fit to carry arms, they are to publicly make proclamation that all who possess 30 librates of land are to provide one strong large horse fit to bear arms

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(*competentem ad arma*), together with proper armour for the same (*una cum armaturis competentibus*). Dated from Acton Burnel, 26th May.

Robert de Barbur of Stafford has letters of conduct and protection whilst transporting corn and other victuals to the army of Wales. William de Valence was appointed *capitaneus* of the army in West Wales, by writ dated from Flint 6th July.

Similar letters were sent to Robert Tibbetot to be used in case William de Valence refused the command.

The Marshal's Roll for this war is extant, and has been printed by the Record Commissioners.¹

The following Staffordshire tenants acknowledged their service at Rhuddlan :—

The Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield acknowledged a service of two Knights, and made fine for them.

Oliver de Langford (Longford) acknowledged his sergeanty in Derbyshire as before, and made fine for it.

Theobald de Verdun acknowledged the service of two-and-a-half Knights' fees to be due for his land in the Marches, and one Knight's fee for his English land, to be performed by himself and by Nicholas de Verdun and Robert de Stapelton Knights, and by William de Sutton, a Sergeant-at-arms (*servienti*).

Ralph Basset of Weldon acknowledged the service of two Knights' fees for land in Northamptonshire, and made fine for them.

Robert de Bromleye acknowledged the service of a third part of half a Knight's fee in Assele (Ashley), to be performed by himself. (This service is entered under Suffolk, as in the former Roll.)

Thomas de Endesoure, for his wife, and for Philippa de Meilnil, her co-parcener, heirs of William le Sauvage of Newton in Warwickshire, acknowledged the service of half a Knight's fee to be performed by John de Hethcote and Stephen de Huntingdone, Sergeants, for 20 days. (These were sisters and co-heirs of William le Sauvage of Hints in Staffordshire.)

John de Eyton acknowledged the service of one-third of half a Knight's fee, for the third part of the inheritance of Philip de Burghwardeleye (Broseley), in Asseley in Staffordshire, to be performed by himself as a Sergeant-at-Arms.

¹ "Parliamentary Writs and Writs of Military Service," Vol. I., p. 228.

Hugh le Blunt, who was infirm, acknowledged the service of two Sergeants, etc. (as before), to be performed by Henry le Blunt and John le Turk, Sergeants-at-Arms.

Geoffrey de Geneville, for the inheritence of Matilda his wife, daughter of Walter de Lacy, acknowledged the service of two fees and a half, to be performed by himself and two others. Theobald de Verdun for the other half of the same inheritance acknowledged the same service to be due, to be performed as above stated.

On the approach of the King with his army, the Welsh, as usual, withdrew into the mountains, and the English occupied the plains. In order to obtain possession of the Isle of Anglesey, to which many of the Welsh had fled for refuge, Edward formed a bridge of boats over the Menai Straits, and it was on this occasion that he met with his only reverse; for a part of his force having passed over the bridge before it was completed, the rising tide cut off their retreat; the Welsh perceiving this, fell in great numbers upon them, and destroyed nearly the whole detachment. In this affair fell thirteen Bannerets or Knights, seventeen Esquires, and about 200 men on foot.

A suit on the Banco Rolls, printed in the Staffordshire Collections, shows that Sir Thomas de Haughton was one of the Knights who fell on this occasion. William de Perton and William de Audley are shown also by Inquisitions p.m. to have died at this time. This mischance happened on St. Leonard's Day, 10 E. L., 6th November, 1282. In the month following, Llewellyn was surprised and killed by a small body of troops under the command of John Giffard, the Baron of Brimsfield, and David the King's brother being taken in the following midsummer, was hanged at Shrewsbury on the 20th September for his treacherous surprise and slaughter of the English garrison of Hawarden. With these two princes expired the independence of Wales.

WELSH WAR OF A.D. 1287.

The Welsh were again in insurrection in 1287 under the leadership of Rees ap Meredyth, a descendant of their ancient kings. The King was abroad, and having appointed Edward Earl of Cornwall his Lieutenant in England, issued writs of summons to the military tenants to join the latter at Gloucester at three weeks from the Feast of St. John the Baptist (15th July, 1287).

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The Staffordshire tenants personally summoned on this occasion were Roger de Somery, Richard de Harecourt, Nicholas the Baron of Stafford, Ralph Basset of Drayton, John fitz Philip, Ralph Basset of Welledon, Simon Basset of Sapcote, Nicholas de Audele, and Robert (*sic*) the Baron of Stafford. Dated from Westminster, 14th June.

Edward Earl of Cornwall, by writ dated 25th June from Westminster, addressed to the Knights, Esquires, etc., of co. Salop and Stafford, notifies that the King had appointed Roger l'Estrange to repress the rebellion of Rees son of Mereduk, and his Welsh accomplices, and requests them to support the said Roger with horses and arms "*et posse vestro*." Another writ of the same date addressed to the Sheriffs of co. Salop and Stafford, orders them to array 500 footmen to proceed against the Welsh; and a later writ requires them to select 2,000 sappers and woodcutters for the same service.

The great Welsh lords were ordered to array 2,800 Welshmen from their domains and the Justice of Chester to send 1,000 men from co. Chester, of whom 200 should be sappers and 200 woodcutters. A writ to John de Bevillard, dated 16th July, orders him to raise 20 men-at-arms and 2,000 men on foot, and after leaving sufficient to garrison the castles in his custody, to lead the remainder to Lampadernauro to proceed against the Welsh.

This short war was signalized by the death of Nicholas the Baron of Stafford, who with William de Montchensy and many other Knights and Squires was killed by the fall of the walls of the Castle of Drosselan, which had been undermined.

The following notes from the Welsh Rolls of 21 and 22 E. I. concern Staffordshire tenants:—

WELSH ROLL, 21 E. I.

A writ to John de Turberville and Roger de Verdun orders them to deliver the Castle of Beere formerly in custody of Hugh de Turberville, deceased, to Robert de Staundon the Justiciary for North Wales. Dated 28th November.

DRITO, 22 E. I.

The King commits to William de Caumville the custody of the cos. of Cardigan and Kermerdin. Dated 1st October.

A writ to Geoffrey de Caunville and five others, states that the King hearing that certain Welshmen in West Wales are disturbing the peace, requests them to proceed in person to the assistance of William de Caunville to repress their inroads. Same date.

A writ of *de respectu* was granted to Edmund Baron of Stafford, who was with Ralph Basset of Drayton in Wales. Dated 26th October.

THE WELSH WAR OF 23 E. I.

The Welsh rose again in the autumn of 1294 under the leadership of Madoc, a kinsman of Llewellyn, and took the town and Castle of Carnarvon. The King sent against them his brother Edmund Earl of Lancaster and the Earl of Lincoln, who were defeated by the Welsh near the town of Denbigh upon St. Martin's Day, 11th November. In consequence of this reverse, the King postponed his departure for Gascony, and took the field in person against the Welsh.

Letters of protection were granted to the following Staffordshire tenants who had proceeded to Wales in the King's service; dated from Westminster, 18th October, and to last till Easter:—

William de Wasteney, in the retinue of Robert de Thateshale.

Geoffrey de Caunville, in the retinue of Walter de Beauchamp, Steward of the King's household.

Ralph Basset of Drayton, in the retinue of Roger le Bigod Earl of Norfolk.

Edmund Baron of Stafford, Robert de Sheldon, and Richard de Draycote, in the retinue of Roger le Bigod Earl of Norfolk.

John Hastang and Robert Hastang, in the retinue of William de Valence. Dated 28th October.

Richard Hastang, in the retinue of John Hastang.

John Paynel, in the retinue of John Hastang.

Thomas Corbet, in the retinue of Peter Corbet.

William de Tittlegh, in the retinue of William de Valence.

John de Ferrars. Dated 12th November.

John de Wasteney, in the retinue of John Wake.

Henry Mauveysyn, in the retinue of John de Warenne Earl of Surrey.

Nicholas de Alditheleye. Dated from Henchlan, 12th December.

Roger de Draycote, in the retinue of Richard de Draycote. Dated from Aberconewey, 2nd January.

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John de Verdon and Thomas de Pyvelesdon, in the retinue of Henry de Lacy Earl of Lincoln.

John de Acton, in the retinue of Humfrey de Bohun Earl of Hereford. Dated 28th February, and to last till the Feast of Pentecost.

Philip de Chetewynde, in the retinue of the King. Dated 16th March, and to last till Michaelmas.

William Wyther and Thomas de Birmingham, Knights, in the retinue of Edmund the King's brother. Dated from Bangor, 9th April; to last till the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula.

WELSH ROLL, 23 E. I.

Geoffrey de Caunville, in the retinue of William de Valence, had letters of protection dated 17th April, and to last till 1st August.

Robert de Stapelton and John Paynel, in the retinue of John de Hastings (Hastang). Dated 9th April, and to last till 1st August.

Richard de Draycote, in the retinue of William de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, and Edmund de Stafford, in the same retinue, had letters of protection to last till 1st August. Dated 23rd April.

Ralph Basset of Drayton, John de Brompton, and Peter Corbet, in the same retinue, had similar letters, dated from Lammays 23rd April.

John de Swynerton, William de Mere, Robert de Meynil, and Edmund de Wasteneys, in the retinue of Nicholas de Alditheleye, had the same. Dated 27th April.

SCOTCH WAR OF A.D. 1296.

In this year commenced the war between the English and Scots, which may be said to have lasted with hardly an intermission for half a century. On 30th March, 1296, the King captured Berwick, and afterwards defeated the Scotch with great slaughter at Dunbar on the 27th April. With the exception of a writ addressed to the Sheriffs of cos. Salop and Stafford, to inform them that the King had appointed Richard Earl of Arundel to compel those who held £40 in land to prepare themselves with horses and arms, and to be ready within three weeks to accompany the King, I have found nothing relating to this expedition which concerns Staffordshire. The above writ was dated 14th January, 1296.

ALMAIN ROLL, 25 E. I., A.D. 1297.

In the 25th year of his reign Edward I., having formed alliances with the Flemings and the German Emperor against the French

King, crossed over to Flanders with his army on the 21st August. The King had summoned for this expedition, by an exercise of the prerogative, all those who held £20 annually in land, whether it was held *in capite* or of any other lord; but the Hereditary Marshal and Constable of the Kingdom, the Earls of Norfolk and Hereford, having declared themselves against the legality of the King's summons, withdrew from the army, and the King appointed in their place Sir Geoffrey de Genville and Sir Thomas de Berkeley. An account of the disputes between the King and his nobles of this date has already been given in the Introduction to the Plea Rolls in Vol. VII. of these Collections, and need not be repeated. When the Earls withdrew from the army they were accompanied by upwards of 30 Bannerets and 1,500 Knights or men-at-arms.

No military event of any importance occurred during this expedition, and in the following spring the King, having made a two years' truce with France, returned to England on the 14th March, to prosecute his designs against Scotland.

The writs of military summons for the expedition into Flanders were issued on the 15th May, 1297, and directed the military tenants of the Crown to be in London on the Sunday after the Octaves of St. John the Baptist, prepared to pass the seas with horses and arms. The Staffordshire tenants personally summoned were William Trussel, Nicholas de Audley, William Wyther, William le Butiller, Geoffrey de Camville, Hugh le Despencer, and Geoffrey de Gresley. On the 24th May writs were issued in nearly the same terms to all who held £20 in land, but these writs were sent to the Sheriffs of counties, having attached to them a schedule of those who had been returned as possessing the above qualification. The schedule for Staffordshire is unfortunately missing, but the following Staffordshire tenants occur on the schedules of other counties:—

Under Herefordshire: Theobald de Verdun and Walter Devereus.

Under Notts and Derby: Ralph Basset, William le Botiller, Roger le Brabanzun, Roger de Morteyn, William de Staunton, Magister Henry de Bray, John de Langford, Richard de Draycote, Richard de Vernoun, Ralph de Montjoye, Nicholas de Marchynton, John de Ferrars, Isabella de Caumville, William de Meynill, Robert de Stafford, John D'Oylly, Geoffrey de Greseleye, and Robert de Stapelton.

Under Northamptonshire: William Trussel, Nicholas de Audley, and Hugh le Despencer.

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Under Berkshire: Adam de Brimpton and Roger de Inglefend.¹

Under Oxfordshire: Theobald de Verdun and John de Heronville.

Under Salop: Theobald de Verdun, Nicholas de Audley, Geoffrey de Genville, Ralph le Botiller, Robert de Stapleton, William Trussel, Adam de Brimpton, William de Huggefurd, Walter de Beysin, Thomas Corbet, Thomas de Tittenlegh, Robert de Halughton, John fitz Philip, Henry Mauveysin, and Philip de Leye.

The writs of military summons printed² contain also a curious letter to Theobald de Verdun, extracted from the Close Rolls and which states that the King had received his excuses for not attending upon his summons owing to his bodily infirmity and the death of his eldest son John, whom he had proposed to send in his place; but the King reminded him he had a younger son Theobald, whom from the King's own recollection, and from other trustworthy sources, he understood was sufficiently strong to bear arms, and he therefore requested him to send him in the place of his brother, as he valued the King's honor and needs. This writ is dated from Westminster the 14th July.

NOTES FROM THE PROTECTION ROLL 25 and 26 E. I.

Edmund de Stafford who has set out for foreign parts in the King's service has letters of protection, dated from St. Paul, 28th September. John de Grendon and Vivian de Chetewynde who have set out with the said Edmund have similar letters. See *m. 1*.

Ralph de Grendon, Robert de Grendon, and Walter de Bermingham had letters of protection, dated 3rd September.

William son of Geoffrey de Camville had the same, dated 15th August.

Nicholas de Alditheley, Robert de Staundon, Roger de Swynnerton, Roger Burgellun, John de Swynnerton, Richard de Chetelton, *cum Rege*, had letters of protection, dated from Sevenok 5th August.

William Wyther, *cum Rege*, had letters dated 12th August.

Roger Basset of Drayton had letters of attorney, dated 9th September.

John Hastang, with Hugh le Despencer, had letters of attorney, dated 20th August.

¹ Mesne lord of part of Himley.

² Vol. I., p. 295. It is very possible that the Salop Schedule contains the Staffordshire tenants.

Theobald de Neville had letters of protection for a year, dated 20th July.

William Wyther had letters of respite (*de respectu*)¹ addressed to the Sheriffs of cos. Derby, York, Hereford, and Stafford, and dated 12th August.

Ralph son of Ralph le Butyller, and Richard le Butiller, with John de Hasting (Hastang), had letters "*de respectu*" addressed to the Sheriffs of cos. Stafford, Warwick, and Salop.

This writ is endorsed, "*Protectiones eorum qui transfretaverunt cum Rege.*"

WAR IN SCOTLAND, A.D. 1298, 26 E. I.

Whilst the King was employed on the Continent, the Earl of Warenne having under his command the levies of the six northern counties, had attacked the Scotch under Wallace and Murray near Stirling, and had suffered a severe defeat. King Edward having concluded a truce with the French King, hastened to England, and by writs dated from Westminster, 30th March, summoned the military tenants to meet him at York on the Feast of Pentecost (25th May, 1298), prepared with horses and arms to march against the Scots. The Staffordshire tenants personally summoned on this occasion were Geoffrey de Camville, Nicholas de Audley, Hugh le Despencer, Edmund Baron of Stafford, William de Stafford, Henry Mauveysin, Richard de Draycote, Hugh de Weston, Richard de Caveswelle, Robert de Pype, Robert Hastang, Adam de Brumpton, Ralph de Montjoye, Theobald de Neville, Geoffrey de Gresley, and William de Montgomeri. John de Wasteney was summoned amongst the Northamptonshire tenants. Amongst the writs to array Welsh infantry for this expedition there occurs one addressed to Walter de Beysin, commissioning him to raise 1,500 men, to be led by himself, and to be at Carlisle on the 17th June. The total number of Welsh infantry to be arrayed was 10,600.

The principal military event of this expedition was the Battle of Falkirk, fought on the 22nd July, when King Edward gave a crushing defeat to Wallace. It was at this battle that the chronicles relate how the Bishop of Durham, who led the second

¹ This writ runs as follows: Rex vicecomiti, etc., volentes dilecto et fideli nostro Willelmo Wyther qui in obsequio nostro profecturus est ad partes transmarinas gratiam facere specialem, dedimus ei respectum ad voluntatem nostram de debitis qui nobis debet ad scaecarium nostrum, etc.

line of the English army, and who hesitated to attack till the arrival of the King with the rearward force, was accosted by "that valiant Knight the Lord Rafe Basset of Draiton," who said to him, "my Lord Bishop, you may go and say mass," and then rushed upon the enemy. As Ralph Basset's name does not appear amongst those summoned on the 30th March, he was probably previously in Scotland with the Earl of Warrenne.

NOTES FROM THE SCOTCH ROLLS, 26 AND 27 E. I.

Robert de Staunton, Elias de Staunton, Peter de Greseley, John de Langeford, Robert de la Warde, and Thomas de Pivelesdon in the retinue of Ralph de Monthermer, Earl of Gloucester and Hereford, about to set out for Scotland (*ad partes Scotie profecturi*), have letters of protection till Christmas day. Dated from York, 27th May.

John de Wasteneys, in the retinue of Gilbert de Umfraville Earl of Anegos, had the same.

Walter de Beysin had letters of protection till the same date, dated from Wyghton 1st June.

William Wyther, in the retinue of Thomas Earl of Lancaster, had letters of protection dated from Northallerton, 12th June.

John de Ferrars had letters of protection dated from Durham 16th June.

The following also had letters of protection :—

Roger de Morteyn, dated 7th July.

William Bagot, *cum Rege*, dated 18th July.

Nicholas de Alditheleye, *cum Rege*, 10th July.

Robert de Grendon, Knight, with Ralph de Monthermer; dated from Stryvelin (Stirling), 6th August.

SCOTCH ROLL, 27 E. I.

Edmund de Stafford had a writ *de respectu* dated 8th February.

John le Wastineys, who is in Scotland in the retinue of John de Warenne Earl of Surrey, had letters of protection to endure till the Feast of Pentecost, dated 17th March.

Nicholas de St. Maur in the retinue of Thomas Earl of Lancaster, has letters of protection dated 25th April.

Edmund de Wasteneys, in the retinue of John de Warenne Earl of Surrey, had letters of protection dated from Beverlake, 24th November to last till the following Michaelmas.

Theobald de Neville, in the retinue of John de Segrave, had the same.

SCOTCH WAR OF 28 E. I., A.D. 1300.

Military summonses were issued this year on the 30th December, 1299, calling upon the tenants of the Crown to be at Carlisle on the day of St. John the Baptist (24th June, 1300). The Staffordshire tenants summoned were: Thomas de Lancaster, John de Ferrars, Hugh le Despencer, Ralph Basset of Drayton, Geoffrey de Caumville, Edmund Baron of Stafford, Theobald de Verdun, senior, and Theobald de Verdun, junior. Levies for this expedition were made in cos. Northumberland, Lancaster, York, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Derby, Notts, and Salop and Stafford. The Commissioner of array for Staffordshire was William de Stafford, who was ordered to select five hundred footmen, and to conduct them to Berwick-upon-Tweed. The total number of men on foot to be arrayed was 15,000. The Irish tenants *in capite* were summoned by a later writ dated 17th January, 1300, and a writ dated 14th January was issued to all the Sheriffs of counties directing them to summon for the same date, viz., 24th June, all those whether Knights or Squires who held £40 in land, and to return their names to the King's wardrobe before the second Sunday in Lent. Two Knights of each county were associated with the Sheriffs for this duty. These Knights for Staffordshire were Lord Basset of Drayton, and Sir Robert de Halgton.

The royal army entered Scotland early in July, and returned to England in November. One of the castles taken in this expedition was that of Carlaverock on the Nith, the siege of which forms the subject of a curious contemporary poem, which was printed by the late Sir Harris Nicolas.

PROTECTIONS, 28 E. I.

Peter de Greseley, in the retinue of Robert fitz Walter, had letters of protection dated from Carlisle 28th June.

William Bagot, in the retinue of Robert fitz Walter, had letters *de respectu* addressed to the Sheriff of Staffordshire, dated from Carlisle 2nd July.

William de Wasteneys and Walter de Bermyngham, in the retinue of Robert de Tateshale, had letters of protection dated from Carlisle 30th June.

John Hastang and Ralph Basset, in the retinue of Hugh le Despencer, had the same.

Robert de Rideware, with Edward the King's son, had the same, dated 1st July.

22 MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

Letters of protection were also issued to the following:—

John de Grendon and John de Longeford, in the retinue of Robert de la Warde, dated from Carlisle 2nd July; to last till the following Easter.

Urian de St. Pierre, in the retinue of John de Grey, 4th July.

Hugh de Alditheleye, in the King's garrison at Berewick (*in munitione Regis de Berewick*), had letters of protection, dated from la Rose 21st September; to last till the following Easter.

A.D. 1301, 29 E. I.

In this year summonses were issued to the military tenants of the Crown to be at Berwick-on-Tweed on the Feast of St. John the Baptist (24th June, 1301), prepared with horses and arms to proceed against the Scots. The Staffordshire tenants summoned were John de Ferrars, Hugh le Despencer, Geoffrey de Caumville, Ralph de Grendon, Edmund Baron Stafford, and Theobald de Verdun, junior. These writs were dated 14th February. Later writs dated 12th March were addressed to all the tenants who held £40 in land, and whose names had been returned into the King's wardrobe pursuant to the King's commands of the previous year. These writs contain the words "ad vadia nostra," which were not employed in the ordinary writ of military summons. The names of the tenants summoned on this occasion occur on the Close Roll of 29 E. I., and the lists are of considerable interest, as they enable us to calculate approximately the number of men-at-arms which could be assembled at a general summons. The number of the military tenants of the Crown summoned on this occasion was only 105, but the number of tenants holding £40 was as follows:—

Of counties not specified	..	..	75
Herefordshire	..	..	36
Cornwall ..	..	..	22
Hampshire	..	..	51
Wilts ..	..	..	28
Somerset and Dorsetshire	..	..	44
Devonshire	..	..	77
Salopshire..	..	..	11
Staffordshire	..	..	17
Gloucestershire	..	..	28
Oxfordshire and Berkshire	..	..	47

Essex and Hertfordshire	53
Bedfordshire and Bucks	32
Surrey and Sussex	37
Worcestershire	5
Middlesex	4
Cambridgeshire and Hunts	58
Norfolk and Suffolk	103
Rutland	12
Warwickshire and Leicestershire ..	40
Notts and Derbyshire	35
Lincolnshire	67
Yorkshire.. ..	53
Total ..	835

Adding to these the tenants *in capite* 105, who would bring into the field on an average about three lances¹ each, we obtain a total of 1,150 lances, exclusive of the Principalities of Durham, Chester, Wales, and Ireland. These were the men-at-arms only who fought on heavy horses protected with steel, but each lance was accompanied by an archer on horseback and one or two hobelars, who were yeomen or men of a middle class, who attended upon their lords, and formed a very effective light cavalry.

The tenants of Staffordshire holding £40 in land who were summoned on this occasion were :—

John Doyley.	Hugh le Blunt.
Robert de Staundon.	William de la More.
William de Stafford.	Richard de Draycote.
Geoffrey de Gresele.	Edmund de Somerville.
Robert de Knytele.	Philip de Chetewynde.
Robert de Tock.	John fitz Philip.
William Wyther.	Richard de Vernun.
John Hamelyn.	Henry Mauveysyn.
Ralph le Botiller, junior.	

¹ This statement requires some explanation. The Marshals' Rolls show that the great lords at this date were bound to produce only the service due for the demesne lands of their Baronies. It is true that their retinues usually consisted of twenty or thirty lances or more, but these were composed, in a great measure, of the lesser tenants summoned under the King's writs who held £40 or £20 of land. The Baron of Stafford would find three men-at-arms, but he would pay scutage on sixty knights' fees, of which he would be allowed the scutage of those who served in person. I doubt much whether the Kings of England at any period could produce in the field more than 3,000 lances by writs of summons. The old superstition that William the Conqueror divided the country into 80,000 knights' fees has long been exploded.

24 MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

The following were returned under other counties :—

John de Longford and William de Montgomeri under Notts and Derbyshire.

Roger Basset and Henry de Erdington under Somerset and Dorsetshire.

Robert de Stepelton, Roger de Morteyn, Walter de Aylesbury, and Ralph de Grendon under Warwickshire and Leicestershire.

Adam de Brompton (Brimpton), Robert de Halughton, and Walter Beisin under Salop.

John de Harecurt and Adam de Brompton¹ under Oxfordshire and Berkshire, and John de Wasteney under Lincolnshire.

PROTECTIONS, 29 E. I.

Ralph Basset, in the retinue of Hugh le Despencer, dated from Kenilworth 30th May.

John de Rydeware, with Edmund de Langley, dated from Kenilworth 2nd June.

William Bagot, with Robert fitz Walter, dated from Tynemuth 24th June.

John de Wasteney, *cum Rege*, dated from Morpath 28th June.

Roger Basset of Drayton, with John de Warenne Earl of Surrey, dated from Bamborough 1st July.

John de Harecurt, with Ralph de Monthermer, 3rd July.

Peter de Greseleye, with Edward Prince of Wales, 23rd July.

Theobald de Neville, with John de Segrave, 14th October.

A.D. 1303, 31 E. I.

A truce had been concluded with the Scots, and no military operations took place in 1302. In the following year, on the expiration of the truce, the King sent John de Segrave with a force into Scotland to govern the country as Lord Warden; but he divided his forces in the immediate presence of the enemy, and was defeated by Comyn the Regent on the 24th February.

The King on the 7th November, 1302, in anticipation of the expiration of the truce, had summoned the military tenants of the Crown to be at Berwick-upon-Tweed at Pentecost (26th May, 1303). The Staffordshire tenants summoned were Thomas Earl

¹ Some few names occur more than once, as in this case.

of Lancaster, Henry of Lancaster, John de Ferars, Hugh le Despencer, Ralph de Grendon, Ralph Basset of Drayton, Edmund Baron of Stafford, Theobald de Verdun, senior, Theobald de Verdun, junior, the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and the Abbot of Burton-on-Trent. On the 20th January, on the requisition of John de Segrave, the King sent an urgent writ to twenty-six of the Lords of the Northern Counties to join the latter "*cum equis et armis et toto posse vestro*," and it was probably the force levied by these writs which was defeated on the 24th February.

For the Royal army the King issued commissions of array for 9,300 men on foot from the Northern Counties only. He advanced as far as the Moray Frith, but met with no opposition in the open field, and in February, 1304, Comyn the Guardian concluded a treaty with the King, the Scottish nobles for the most part submitting. The Castle of Stirling was taken on the 24th July, 1304, and the King returned to England, leaving John de Segrave Governor of Scotland.

The following Staffordshire tenants took out letters of protection for this expedition:—

John de Ferrars, 13th January, dated from Odyham.

Edmund le Wasteneys, in the retinue of Robert de Clifford dated 28th February.

John de Sumery, dated 21st March.

John de Langeford, William le Blund, William Tymmor, Peter de Greseleye, Robert de Staunton (Standon), in the retinue of Robert de la Warde, dated 8th April, and to last till Michaelmas.

Robert de Halghton with Ralph de Monthermer, dated 18th April.

In 8 E. II. a writ was sent to the collectors of the scutage of 28 E. I., ordering them to withdraw their demand for scutage on one and a half Knights' fees in Warwickshire formerly held by Edmund Baron Stafford, deceased, the said Baron having served that year in Scotland with his full service as appears by the Marshals' Rolls, and which demand had been made on Thomas de Pipe and Margaret his wife, who now held the lands and tenements in question. Dated from Lincoln 20th February 8 E. II.

A similar writ was sent to the collectors of the scutage of 31 E. I. in favour of Theobald de Verdun son of Theobald de Verdun deceased, the said Theobald having found his full service, viz., one

and a half Knight's fee in 31 E. I., as appears by the Marshals' Rolls of that year.

A similar writ was sent to the collectors of the scutage in Sussex of 31 E. I. for John de Sumery, the said John having found his full service of two and a half Knights' fees, with the King's army in that year. (Miscellaneous Tower Records, No. 179.)

A.D. 1306.

This year is famous for the murder of Comyn by Bruce, and the assumption by the latter of the Crown of Scotland. He was crowned at Scone on the 25th March.

Aylmer de Valence was appointed the King's Lieutenant for the Marches on the 5th April, and all the men-at-arms and men on foot from the counties of York and Northumberland were placed under his command.

On the following day writs were expedited to all Sheriffs of counties, ordering them to make public proclamation that all who were not Knights and wished to be knighted were to be in London before the day of Pentecost, to receive from the King's wardrobe suitable apparel of the King's gift (*ut arma militaria de nobis ibidem suscipere valeant dicto die*).

The object of this writ was to add splendour and solemnity to the Knighthood of Edward of Carnarvon, the eldest son of the King, whom it was intended to send into Scotland with all the Knights made on this occasion. Ashmole in his "Introduction to the History of the Garter," gives a list of these Knights, which amounted to 267, from which I have extracted the following Staffordshire names:—

William de Bermingham.	Henry de Erdington.
John de Weston.	Ralph Basset.
Ralph Bagot.	William de Handsacre.
Peter de Gresley.	John de Somery.
Roger de Somerville.	William de Wrottesley.
John de Harcourt.	William Trussel.

On the same day that these writs were issued, the King issued others to the Sheriffs of counties to put a stop to all tournaments, and to summon all men-at-arms of every county to meet him at Carlisle on the 15th July, prepared with horses and arms, to repress the rebellion of the Scots. .

The military tenants of the Crown were summoned by writs dated from Winchester on the 10th May, amongst these appear the following Staffordshire tenants:—

Geoffrey de Caumville.	Ralph de Grendon.
Ralph Basset of Drayton.	John de Somery.
Edmund Baron of Stafford.	Theobald de Verdun, senior.
Roger de Somerville.	

PROTECTIONS, 34 E. I.

The following letters of protection appears on the Roll of this year:—

Richard Bagot, in the retinue of Aylmer de Valence, dated from Winchester 7th April.

Edmund de Wasteneys, in the retinue of Robert de Clifford, same date.

Robert Hastang, dated 18th April and 24th May.

Roger de Somervyle, John de Ferrars, Thomas de Ferrars, about to set out for Scotland with the King, have letters of protection dated from Westminster 24th May.

William Bagot and Richard Bagot, in the retinue of Robert fitz Walter, dated 26th May.

Peter de Greseley, 26th May.

Henry de Erdyngton, in the retinue of John de Hastyng, dated 26th May.

John son of John le Estrange of Knokyn, *cum Rege*.

John son of Peter Corbet, Henry de Morf, John de Ebroicis (Devereux), in the retinue of Roger de Mortimer of Wygemore, dated 26th May.

Robert de Bures, 28th May.

William Bagot, in the retinue of Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, dated 26th May from Westminster.

Peter Corbet, 28th May, *cum Rege*.

Reginald de Wasteneys, in the retinue of John de Warenne Earl of Surrey, dated from Westminster 20th June.

Peter de Greseleye, in the retinue of Robert de la Warde Steward of the King's household, dated 8th June.

John de Doddyngeles, in the retinue of John de Hasting, dated from Harewe 12th June.

John de Swynnerton, in the retinue of Thomas Earl of Lancaster, dated from Westminster 6th June.

28 MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

Thomas de Caumville, *cum Rege*, 6th June.

Edmund de Wasteney, in the retinue of Robert de Clifford, dated from Redpath 15th September.

Robert de Hastang, dated from Thirlewall 20th September.

Thomas le Rus, in the retinue of Nicholas de Estle (Astley), dated from Lanercost 16th October.

35 E. I.

William de Hastynges, Thomas le Rous, and John le Rous, in the retinue of John de Hastynges, dated from Carlisle 3rd April.

John de Sumery, in the retinue of Edmund Earl of Arundel, dated from Carlisle 1st July.

By writs dated from Lanercost 8th October, the King commands the Sheriffs to arrest several of the Barons who had left the King's army in Scotland without permission; amongst these were Piers de Gavaston, Roger de Mortimer, and Ralph Basset. The Sheriff of Staffordshire was one of those ordered to arrest the two latter, and to take all their lands into the King's hand.

By writs dated from Lanercost on the following 23rd January, the King pardons Roger de Mortimer and Ralph Basset, and thirteen others, including Piers de Gavaston, at the intercession of the Queen, and restores to them their estates.

1 E. II., A.D. 1307.

Edward I. died at Burgh on the Sands near Carlisle on the 7th July, 1307. His son Edward II. advanced as far as Dumfries in Scotland, where many of the Scotch nobility did homage to him. The party of Bruce at this time appears to have been relatively small, most of the Scotch nobles having been estranged from him by his murder of Comyn. The efforts of the English were therefore confined to maintaining garrisons in the principal castles of Scotland.

In the following year, however, Bruce having defeated the Comyns near Aberdeen, the King summoned all the tenants of the Crown to meet him at Carlisle on the 22nd August, to proceed against Robert de Brus and his adherents. The Staffordshire tenants summoned were Thomas Earl of Lancaster, John de Ferrars, Henry de Lancaster, Hugh le Despencer, Ralph Basset of Drayton, John de Lancaster, Geoffrey de Caumville, Ralph de Grendon, Edmund Baron of Stafford, the two Theobalds de Verdun (father

and son), the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and the Abbot of Burton-on-Trent.

The infantry of the force was to consist of 1,000 men from co. York, 500 from cos. Notts and Derby, 300 from co. Salop, 200 from co. Stafford (to be arrayed by William de Stafford and Peter de Gresley, and to be led by the said William), 600 Welsh from North Wales, 600 from South Wales, and 400 from Montgomeryshire, the latter to be arrayed and led by Walter de Beysin.

Shortly afterwards a truce was concluded with Bruce, which lasted till August, 1310.

WAR IN SCOTLAND, A.D. 1310.

In this year the King issued summonses to the military tenants on the 18th June, 1310, to meet him at Berwick-on-Tweed on the 8th September following. These summonses were repeated in more pressing terms on the 2nd August. The Staffordshire tenants summoned were Thomas Earl of Lancaster, Theobald de Verdun, Ralph Basset of Drayton, John de Ferrars, Philip le Despencer, John de Somery, Henry de Erdynton, John de Lancaster, Henry de Lancaster, William de Claunvill (Camville), Robert de Grendon, Ralph Basset of Sapcote, Hugh le Despencer, and Margaret formerly wife of Edmund Earl (*sic*) of Stafford.

The infantry of this expedition appears to have consisted almost entirely of Welshmen, of whom about 8,000 were raised. In addition to these, writs of array were issued for 100 balistars or cross-bowmen from the City of London, 500 men from Lancashire and Cheshire, 30 men from co. Salop, 100 archers and 12 miners from the Forest of Dean, and 100 archers from co. Chester.

The Marshals' Roll of this expedition has been printed by Madox in his "*Baronia Anglica*." The following Staffordshire tenants acknowledged the service which they owed the King:—

Sir Thomas de Pype acknowledged a service owing in Staffordshire and Warwickshire of one and a half Knights' fees to be performed by Richard de Mandeville, Robert de Chetewynde, and Richard Bagot, with three barded horses (*equis coopertis*). (Thomas de Pype had married Margaret the widow of Edmund Baron Stafford, and the above service was owing for her dower.)

Sir Hugh le Blount acknowledged the service of one fee and of a Sergeanty to be performed by Hugh le Blount and Henry le Blount his sons, with one barded horse and one horse without arms.

30 MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

Sir Theobald de Verdun acknowledged the service of three and a half Knights' fees for all his lands in England and Wales, to be performed by Sir Thomas de Mordak (Murdac), Knight, Arnald de Boys, Edmund de Lewes, John de Mentham, William de Kynebell, and Richard de Compton, with seven barded horses.¹

Sir Hugh le Despencer, senior, acknowledged the service of two Knights' fees to be performed by Sir John de Lageham and Sir Philip de Verney, Knights, with four barded horses.

The Bishop of Chester acknowledged the service of two Knights' fees, to be performed by John de Benton, Adam de Berken-syde, Stephen Pouterel, and John Picard.

John de Harecourt, Knight, acknowledged the service of one Knight's fee in Oxfordshire, to be performed by John Paignel and Thomas Paignel, with two barded horses.

The Earl of Lancaster acknowledged the service of six Knights' fees for all his lands in England, to be performed by Roger de Swenerton, John de Twyford, Peter de Lymeseye, and William Trussel, Knights, John de Swenerton, John de Nortle, Richard de Lymesy, and Robert de Kent, Sergeants, with barded horses.

Sir John de Ferers acknowledged the service of one Knight's fee.

Edmund de Somerville acknowledged the service of one-fourth of a Knight's fee for his land in Staffordshire, to be performed by John de Camera with a barded horse.

The following Staffordshire tenants are named as serving for other tenants *in capite*, viz., Thomas le Rous, for Sir John de Grey; Edmund Wasteney, for Peter de Gavaston Earl of Cornwall; Ancelm le Mareschal, for William le Mareschall; and William de Wrottesley, for the Abbot of Pershore.

SCOTCH ROLL, 4 E. II. (1310).

The following had letters of protection for this expedition: Thomas de Hastang, John Touke, Henry Touke, and William de Wasteney, in the retinue of John de Crumbewell. Dated from York, 13th August.

Ralph Basset of Drayton, dated from Newminster 8th September.

John de Ferrars, same date.

¹ It will be noted that each Knight's fee involved bringing into the field two lances.

Edmund fitz John, Walter de Huggefurd, William Durant, John son of John de Annesley, Peter de Langeford, Roger de Stratton, John de Bereford, John de Baskerville, and others, in the retinue of John de Ferrars. Dated from Beverlacu, 19th August.

John Giffard, in the retinue of John de Sumery, dated from Rokesburgh 26th September.

Thomas le Rous, dated from Rokesburgh 26th September.

Adam de Staneye, dated from Lessedewyn 21st September.

Thomas de Haleghton, in the retinue of Gilbert de Clare Earl of Gloucester, dated as above.

Roger de Swynnerton, *cum Rege*, dated from Byg 6th October.

John de Grendon, dated 24th March from Berwick-on-Tweed (in the retinue of Pagan Tybetot).

John de Chetewynde, in the retinue of Edward Burnel, dated 14th March.

Theobald de Verdun (who had come to the King) (*sic*) had letters of protection dated 25th June.

The King met with little opposition, and penetrated as far as Renfrew. He wintered at Berwick, and returned to England in July, 1311.

A.D. 1311-1312.

The two next years of Edward's unfortunate reign were occupied by the dissensions between him and his Barons on the subject of Peter de Gavaston. The Barons, headed by the Earl of Lancaster, took up arms in the spring of 1312, besieged Gavaston in Scarborough Castle, took him prisoner and beheaded him on Blacklow Hill near Warwick on the 19th June. The King's forces deserting him, he was forced to come to terms with the Barons, and to issue letters of pardon for all those implicated in the death of Gavaston.

The Patent Roll of 7 E. II. contains pardons for the following Staffordshire tenants for their share in the above transactions :—

William Trussell.
Ralph de Grendon.
Roger de Somerville.
Nicholas de Audele.
John de Swynnerton.
Thomas de Ardene.
Robert de Wolseley.

Edmund son of Edmund Trussell.
John d'Oddyngesels.
Hugh de Meignell.
Philip Hastang.
Roger de Swynnerton.
Nicholas de Langeford (Longford).

WAR IN SCOTLAND, A.D. 1313-1314.

During the occurrences of the two previous years Bruce had made considerable progress in Scotland: the strong Castles of Roxburgh and Edinburgh had been captured by the Scots, and Stirling, almost the only remaining fortress in the hands of the English, was besieged by them. With a view of relieving the last named castle the King prepared for an expedition into Scotland, and on the 23rd December, 1313, issued summonses to his military tenants to meet him with horses and arms at Berwick-on-Tweed on the 10th June, 1314, prepared to march against the Scots. The Staffordshire tenants summoned were Theobald de Verdun, Henry de Lancaster,¹ Hugh le Despencer, Ralph Basset of Drayton, Henry de Erdington, John de Lancaster, William de Clamville (*sic*, Camville), Robert de Grendon, and the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield.

On the 22nd, March, 1314, the King sent summonses to the chiefs of the Irish septs, whom he styles "duces," requesting them to lend their assistance to Richard de Burgh Earl of Ulster, whom he had appointed captain of the Irish levies, and on the same day he issued letters to the same effect to all the Irish ecclesiastics and tenants who held in chief of the Crown; but it would appear that no Irish arrived in time to take part in the campaign. As the numbers of the English army have been ridiculously exaggerated by Hume and other Scottish writers, it is advisable to give the exact force which was arrayed on the occasion. This consisted of 12,000 English and 5,500 Welsh, or altogether 17,500 infantry; the men-at-arms were fewer than usual, as many of the most powerful Earls did not attend, and the King's writ, in which he asks for an increased number of men on foot from the Northern Counties, states that the country was inaccessible to horsemen.

The fact was that up to this time Bruce had never ventured to meet the English in the open field, and it was with the fullest confidence that they would never withstand the English power that Edward had advanced to Bannockburn. It is not likely therefore that he would have levied a very large force, and the writs on the Scotch Roll show distinctly that he did not. The battle was lost by a want of concert between the English infantry and the men-at-arms, for the English archers being left unsupported were dispersed by an attack of the Scotch men-at-arms on their flank, and the

¹ Brother of Thomas Earl of Lancaster; the latter was not summoned on this occasion.

English cavalry when they arrived on the scene, in place of attacking the Scotch men-at-arms, rushed blindly on the Scotch infantry, which were securely entrenched behind obstacles, inaccessible to cavalry. The rout was complete, and it is very doubtful if any of the English infantry escaped, for the Scotch gave no quarter, and there was no reserve or place of shelter on which they could fall back.

NOTES FROM THE SCOTCH ROLL OF 7 E. II., A.D. 1313-1314.

The following Staffordshire tenants had letters of protection, viz.:

John de Chetewynde.	Nicholas de Chetwynde.
John de Harecurt.	Thomas de Ferrars.
Hugh de Audele.	Hugh son of Hugh de Audele.
James son of James de Audele.	Edmund de Wasteney.
Theobald de Verdun.	Henry de Chesterton.
Nicholas de Audele.	Robert Hastang.
Philip Hastang.	Adam de Staneye.
John de Stapelton.	Thomas de Stonhale.
Malcolm de Harle.	William de Hamsted.
Hugh de Hephham (of Bobbington), in the retinue of Hugh le Despencer.	Ralph le Botiller.

Hugh de Croft and Roger Corbet (the Sheriffs) were ordered to select 1,000 footmen (*pedites*) from the cos. of Salop and Stafford, and to conduct them to Newcastle-on-Tyne at three weeks from Easter, equipped to proceed against the Scots. By a second writ the Sheriffs of Salop and Stafford were commanded to select 2,000 footmen and to conduct them to Werk, by Monday 10th June, equipped to proceed to Scotland in order to relieve the Castle of Stryvelin (Stirling), which was of difficult access for horses. Dated from Newminster 27th May (1314).

The Sheriff of York was ordered to select 4,000 men on foot from that county; the Sheriff of Notts and Derby, 2,000; the Sheriff of Northumberland, 2,000; the Sheriff of cos. Warwick and Leicester, 500; and the Sheriff of Lancashire, 500. The Bishop of Durham, 1,000; the Justice of Wales, 2,000 from North Wales, and 1,000 from South Wales. John de Cherleton, from his lands of Powis, 500; the Earl of Gloucester, from his lands of Glamorgan, 500; John de Hastings, from his lands of Bergevenny, 200; Roger de Mortimer, from the Marches of Wales, 300; the Justice of Chester,

500; James de Pirario, from his lands in Wales, 200; the Earl of Hereford, from his lands of Brecknock, 200. From the Forest of Dene, 100; and John de Crombwell the Constable of Hope was ordered to send forty.

The Sheriffs of cos. Stafford and Salop were ordered to select 20 carts (*caretti*) with four horses, to be at Berwick-on-Tweed at a month from St. John the Baptist, to be provided out of the issues of the county. Similar writs were issued to the Sheriffs of other counties.

8 E. II., A.D. 1314-1315.

The battle of Bannockburn was fought on the 24th June, 1314, close to Stirling. The King fled to Berwick-on-Tweed, from which place he expedited on the 30th June 362 urgent writs to Barons and Knights and others, enjoining them to be at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 15th August, to repress the incursions of the Scotch. Of Staffordshire tenants summoned on this occasion appear the names of Hugh le Despencer, Theobald de Verdun, Thomas de Pype, Hugh le Blound, Edmund Wasteneys, Ralph Basset of Drayton, Ralph Basset of Sapecote, Hugh de Croft, Richard de Stratton (Stretton), Roger de Somerville, Nicholas de Meignill, John Hastang, John Giffard of Chelyngton, Robert de Dutton, William de Mere, Walter de Stafford, William de Ferrars, Henry de Lancaster, John de Lancaster, John de Somery, Ralph de Grendon, Thomas Hastang, Ralph de Vernon, Hugh de Hephram, and John de Chetwynde. It is significant that on such an emergency no summonses were issued to Thomas Earl of Lancaster, nor to any of the Staffordshire tenants like Roger de Swynnerton and John de Swynnerton, who were considered to be in his interest.

The following protections to Staffordshire tenants were issued by the King from York on the 9th August:—

John de Weston, Hugh de Audele, jun., and Richard de Vernoun, in the retinue of William de Montagu; and to Adam de Staneye, William de Wolaston of Stafford, Robert Hastang, Roger de Somervyle, Ralph Basset, Robert de Hamsted, Hugh de Croft, Robert de Arderne, and William de Bereford.

9 E. II., A.D. 1315-1316.

The force of men at the King's disposal being found insufficient to carry on the war in Scotland, at the Parliament held at

Lincoln in this year it was ordered that one armed man on foot (*unum hominem peditem armatum*¹) should be raised in every city, town, or vill² of the Kingdom, to serve the King in his wars in Scotland. A writ was accordingly sent to all Sheriffs throughout England, dated from Clipstone 5th March, requiring them to certify the cities, boroughs, and vills² in every Hundred of their Bailiwick, and the names of the lords thereof. The returns to this writ are called the "Nomina Villarum," and have been printed by the Record Commissioners amongst the "Parliamentary Writs and Writs of Military Summons." The Sheriff of Staffordshire returned the names of 28 towns or vills in Offlow Hundred, 30 in Cuttlestone Hundred, 21 in Totmonslo Hundred, 44 in Pirehill Hundred, and 25 in Seisdon Hundred. Total 148.

William Trussel, John Giffard of Chelyngton, and William Trumwyn were the Commissioners appointed to make this levy in Staffordshire. The men so levied were to be at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 10th August; but owing to the refusal of the Earl of Lancaster and many of the Barons to join the army, the summonses were countermanded on the 26th June.

10 E. II., A.D. 1316-1317.

The King having obtained from Parliament a subsidy of a 16th, superseded his summonses for a man from every vill by writs dated 5th August, 1316; but the Commissioners of Array were ordered to select the men, and to hold them in readiness; and on the 20th May, 1317, the King issued the usual summonses to the military tenants of the Crown to meet him at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the 8th July, 1317. The Staffordshire tenants summoned were Thomas Earl of Lancaster, Robert de Grendon, Henry de Erdington, Hugh le Despencer, senior, and Hugh le Despencer, junior, Thomas de Pipe, John de Somery, Hugh le Blunt, Nicholas de Audele, Hugh de Audele, junior, Ralph Basset of Drayton,

¹ Not a man-at-arms as often translated; the man-at-arms is always written "*homo-ad-arma*." This term "*homo-ad-arma*" is used in a technical sense, and signifies a fully armed horseman with a barded horse, i.e., a horse protected with steel. The man-at-arms might be a knight, or he might be a squire, or a baron, or a banneret, but in the language of chivalry there could be no higher class of warrior.

² The vill used in this sense seems to be synonymous with the ancient capital manor; thus Chillington is not named in this return, as it was in the soke of Brewood; Codsall is not named, because it was in the soke of Oaken; Ilam is not named, because it was in the soke of Okeover; nor Handsacre, Tamhorn, Weeford, and other vills in the soke of the Bishop's Manor of Longdon.

William de Camville, Ralph Basset of Sapcote, Robert de Stepelton, Richard le Draycote, William Trussel of Cubblesdon, John de Harecurt, Ralph de Grendon, William de Ferrars, William de Burmyngham, Henry de Lancaster, John de Lancaster, and Robert de Hastang. By a later writ these summonses were prorogued to the 11th August. The Scottish Chronicle (Holinshed's) says of this expedition, that Edward King of England, hearing King Robert had passed over to Ireland, "thought the time to serve well for his purpose eftsoones to invade Scotland; but Sir James Douglas the Governor, having likewise gathered an army, gave him battle, and put him and his people to flight." The English historians say the great Barons disobeyed the summons, and the plan of invasion was exchanged for a few predatory incursions, which generally ended in the discomfiture of the invaders.

NOTES FROM THE SCOTCH ROLL OF 10 E. II.

The following letters of protection were issued to Staffordshire tenants:—

To Thomas de Beysin, Knight, in the retinue of John de Cherleton. Dated from York 17th August, to last till Michaelmas.

By writ dated from York 20th August the King orders a levy of all men between the ages of 16 and 60 from the cos. of York, Northumberland, Lancaster, Westmoreland, Cumberland, Notts, and Derby, to proceed with him against the Scots.

Letters of protection to last till Christmas were granted to the following, in the retinue of John de Warenne Earl of Surrey:—

John de Chetewynde, Vivian de Chetewynde, Thomas de Tythenlegh; writ dated 22nd August, from York; and to John de Somery, John de Sutton, Richard de Wollaston, William de Charles, William de Santford, in the retinue of John de Cherleton.

James d'Audele, Ralph le Botiller (with Fulk L'Estrange), Robert Hastang, and Richard Hastang.

Hugh de Croft and Thomas de Halghton, in the retinue of Roger de Mortimer of Wygemore.

Roger Trumwyne and Roger Corbet, in the retinue of Roger de Mortimer of Chirk.

William de Bermingham, in the retinue of John de Segrave. Dated from York 7th October.

John Giffard of Chilyngton, in the retinue of Stephen de Segrave; the same date, and to last till Christmas.

John de Hastang, in the retinue of Robert de Montagu.

John de Swynerton, William Bagot, Henry de Bissebury, Richard Talbot, and John de Bromeley of Coueley, in the retinue of John de Somery. Dated from York 10th October.

Walter de Huford, in the retinue of John de Cherleton.

Ralph Basset of Drayton, William de Ferrers, and Henry Basset. Dated 12th October.

Philip de Hastang, William de Wrottesleye, and Thomas le Rous, in the retinue of John de Warenne Earl of Surrey. Dated 8th September, and to last till Christmas.

John de Somery, John Giffard of Chilynton, Thomas de Clinton, Thomas de Wynnesbury, William de Erkalewe, Roger de Cheyneye, William Bagot, Robert de Sheldon, Roger le Botiller, John de Sutton, John de Swinerton, and Ralph de Grendon, in the retinue of Edmund Earl of Arundel. Dated from York 18th November.

Writs to select footmen for the war in Scotland were issued to Commissioners of Array in the counties of York, Notts, Derby, Salop, Stafford, Leicester, Warwick, Lancaster, Hereford, Lincoln, Worcester, Gloucester and Northampton, and Wales.

The Commissioners for cos. Salop and Stafford were Roger de Baskervyle, Ralph de Rolleston, and John de Perton, who were to select 2,000 men, to be led by Roger de Baskervyle, and to be at Newcastle-on-Tyne at three weeks from the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (15th July, 1317). The total number of infantry to be arrayed was 12,000, in addition to the Welsh, who were to consist of about 4,000.

11 E. II., A.D. 1317-1318.

The King had intended to have invaded Scotland again this year at the head of an army, and Ralph de Rolleston, Walter Haket, and John de Perton were appointed Commissioners to array 1,000 men from the cos. of Salop and Stafford for the expedition, to be led by Walter Haket, and to be at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the morrow of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (15th September, 1317); but the dissensions amongst his nobles caused the design to be abandoned.

The Scotch Roll of this year (11 Ed. II.) shows that Hugh de Audley, senior, was serving on the marches of Scotland, and that James de Audley was in his retinue.

38 MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

The following Staffordshire tenants had letters of protection: Robert Hastang, who was acting as joint Governor of York with Walter de Taye and Roger de Levyngham, who was in garrison at Alnwick.

A.D. 1318.

The Scotch under Randal Earl of Murray recovered the town of Berwick by treachery on the 2nd April of this year, and in the following month they invaded England, burning and destroying everything as far south as Northallerton in Yorkshire. They returned back into Scotland by the Western Marches, and appeared to have met with little if any resistance, the power of England being paralysed by the dissensions between the King and his nobles.

EXTRACTS FROM THE SCOTCH ROLL OF 12 E. II., A.D. 1318-19.

By a writ dated from Nottingham 11th August the Mayor and Aldermen of London were required to array 500 men on foot to proceed against the Scots, to be paid by them for 40 days, and to be at York on the Sunday after the Nativity of St. Mary (September, 1318).

Similar writs were issued to the Mayors or Bailiffs of the following towns:—

Winchester to supply 100 men.				Stafford to supply 40 men.			
Neubery	"	"	40	Bedford	"	"	10
Gloucester	"	"	30	Worcester	"	"	20
Abyndon	"	"	15	Warwick	"	"	20
Salop	"	"	40	St. Albans	"	"	20
Chester	"	"	40	Chichester	"	"	20
Buckingham	"	"	10	Roff: (Rochester)	"	"	10
Lychefeld	"	"	20	Herewyz (Harwich)	"	"	15
Coventry	"	"	20	St. Edmund	"	"	100
Southampton	"	"	20	Cambridge	"	"	15
Oxford	"	"	40	Derby	"	"	10
Hereford	"	"	30	Nottingham	"	"	40
Redyng	"	"	20	Lincoln	"	"	100

¹ The King had issued summonses to the military tenants of the Crown to meet him at the same date at York.

Grantham to supply	10 men.	Huntingdon to supply	20 men.
St. Botolph „	30 „	Grymmesby „	10 „
Scardeburgh „	30 „	Northampton „	40 „
Doncaster „	10 „	Neuwerk „	10 „
Newcastle-on-Tyne	100 „	Staunford „	15 „
Canterbury „	40 „	York „	100 „
Colchester „	15 „	Kingeston-on-Hull	20 „
Norwich „	100 „	Blyda (Blyth) „	10 „
Gipwic (Ipswich)	20 „		

The following Staffordshire tenants had letters of protection :—

William Touchet, Roger Corbet, Robert de Beck (in the retinue of Thomas Earl of Lancaster).

Richard de Wolaston, *cum Rege*.

William de Birmyngham, Henry de Bissebury, Hugh de Heppeham, Stephen Dunneheved, John de Sutton, Roger de Aylesbury, John de Swynnerton, William de Wrotesle, John de Boynton Richard de Egebaston, and John Giffard, of the retinue of Roger de Somery, had letters of protection to last till Easter. Dated from York 24th September (1318).

A writ dated from York 25th September orders all the men of Yorkshire between the ages of twenty and sixty years to be called out for service against the Scots.

Roger de Somerville, Ralph Basset, senior, and others in the retinue of Richard de Grey, had letters of protection dated from York 24th October.

A writ of summons dated from York 16th December states that the Scotch had carried their devastations into Yorkshire. This writ was addressed to all the chief proprietors of the northern counties, and orders them to call out and array for war all their men between the ages of twenty and sixty. Amongst those to whom the writ was addressed were Thomas Earl of Lancaster, John de Sutton, Roger de Somerville, Edmund Wasteney, and Robert Hastank (Hastang).

13 E. II., A.D. 1319–1320.

In 1319 Edward II., assisted by a fleet, made an attempt to recover Berwick, but was unsuccessful. Whilst he was employed upon this siege, the Scotch advanced into the northern counties of England, ravaging the country as far as the gates of York, and defeating the Archbishop of York, who had raised the “posse” of

the county, and attempted to oppose them at Boroughbridge. The party of the Earl of Lancaster shortly afterwards forsook the King's standard, and on the 21st December Edward II. made a truce for two years with Robert Bruce.

The records give the following information respecting the operations of this year:—

On the 20th March, 1319, the King issued summonses to all the military tenants of the Crown to meet him at Newcastle-upon-Tyne on the 20th June following, prepared with horses and arms to proceed against the Scots. The Staffordshire tenants summoned were Thomas Earl of Lancaster, Hugh le Despencer, senior, Hugh le Despencer, junior, William de Stafford, Hugh de Audele, junior, Roger de Somerville, Robert de Grendon, John de Somery, William de Ferrars, Ralph Basset of Drayton, John de Harecurt, Robert de Stepelton, William Bagot, Hugh le Blunt, and Hugh de Audele, senior. Fresh writs dated from York 2nd May prorogued the date of rendezvous to the 22nd July.

The Scotch Roll of 13 E. II. contains letters of protection for the following Staffordshire tenants:—

William de Bermengeham, in the retinue of Roger de Somery; dated from York 11th July, and to last till Michaelmas (1319).

Roger de Somerville; same date.

Robert de Hastang and Richard de Hastang, in the retinue of John de Bretagne Earl of Richemund.

James Tromwyn, John de Wolaston, Ralph Bagot, and Thomas Basset, in the retinue of Adomar (Aylmer) de Valence Earl of Pembroke. Dated 16th July from York.

John de Bures, Robert de Stepilton, Ralph le Botiller, Gerard Salvayn, George Salvayn, and Roger de Okoure (Okeover). Robert de Stepilton's letters are dated from Durham 29th July, and those of Roger de Okeover from Bayremore 29th August.

Roger de Somery had letters of protection to last till Christmas day, dated from York 20th July (1319). The following who were of his retinue had the same, viz.:—

William de Burmingham, Thomas de Pipe, John de Sutton, John Giffard of Chylynton, Richard de Egebaston, William de Wrotkesley (Wrottesley), Thomas de la Heyde (Hide), Henry de Bissheburi, Roger de Aylesbury, William Deverous, John de Stoteville, Patrick de Barton, Richard Paynel, John de Swynerton, and Henry Makelyn.

Similar letters were granted to Edmund de Gasteneys

(Wasteneys), who was in the retinue of Thomas Earl of Norfolk, Marshal of England, and to Thomas de Wynesbury, Walter Haket, Roger Cheyney, and others, in the retinue of Edmund Earl of Arundel; Ralph Basset of Drayton, *cum Rege*, had the same. Dated from Durham 1st August.

John de Littlebury and John de Bermyngham, in the retinue of Nicholas de Segrave, had letters of protection dated from York 20th July.

Letters of protection were granted also to the following:—

Walter de Huggefurd, Hugh Godard, Roger Corbet, John de Hynkeleye, and William Porcel, in the retinue of Roger de Mortimer, of Chirk. Dated from Durham 1st August.

To Walter de Dutton and Thomas le Rous, in the retinue of Hugh de Audele, junior. Dated from York 20th July.

And to Edmund de Morton, Hugh de Cokeseye, William de Mokeleston, Walter Fouke, William Corbet, Peter Giffard, Roger de Tromwyn, Henry de Cresswalle, and Edmund de Shireford, in the retinue of John de Cherleton; dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 3rd August; and to Oliver de Stretton, in the retinue of James de Audele.

15 E. II. A.D. 1321–1322.

In this year was formed the association of the Barons against the Despencers. In August, 1321, they took possession of London, and held a parliament which banished the King's favourites. On the 20th of the same month the King issued letters of pardon to the Barons and their adherents who had been engaged in this confederacy. Amongst these were the following Staffordshire tenants: Philip de Barington, Nicholas de Longeford, Robert de Dutton, Edmund de Wasteneys, Roger Tromwyne the elder, Roger Tromwyne the younger, John Tromwyn, John Hastang, James Trumwyne, John de Hinkele, and David Trumwyne.¹

On the 8th December the King recalled the Despencers, and by writs dated respectively from Chichester, Worcester, and Salop, December, 1321, and January, 1322, ordered a levy of men from the counties of Sussex, Oxford, Berks, Hants, Northampton, Stafford, Salop, Warwick, and Lancaster. The Commissioners of Array for co. Stafford were John de Swynnerton and John Giffard of Chillington, who were commanded to raise 2,000 men on foot

¹ Rot. Pat., 15 E. II., p. 1.

without delay, and to bring them to the King wherever he might be. Two Staffordshire Knights, Ralph de Grendon and Thomas le Rous, were also ordered to raise 1,000 men in Warwickshire, but by a later writ dated from Salop 22nd January, they were ordered to retain these men within that county to oppose and arrest the King's enemies. On the 6th February the King sent writs to a limited number of the military tenants of the Crown to hold themselves in readiness to take the field with him against his enemies. The Staffordshire tenants summoned were the two Despencers, John de Somery, and Ralph Basset of Drayton.

By writs dated the same day he ordered the Sheriffs of counties to arm all the men within their bailiwicks between the ages of sixteen and sixty, and to divide them into companies of 20 and 100, and into "*Constabularia*," so that they might be ready to join him when called upon. A similar writ was sent to all the custodians of the castles which were in the King's hands by reason of the rebellion of their owners. Amongst these was Sir Peter Giffard, the brother of Sir John Giffard of Chillington, to whom had been committed the custody of Chirk, the principal castle and *caput* of the barony of Roger de Mortimer. The Barons who had been warned by the writ of 6th February, were directed to meet the King at Coventry on the 28th February, by writs dated from Gloucester of the 14th February, which stated that the rebels had besieged the King's castle of Tickhill. On the same day writs were issued to the Welsh lords or their bailiffs to array a large body of Welshmen, and to send them to meet the King at Coventry by the 5th March. A writ of the same date ordered Sir Peter Giffard to send 300 men from Chirk to the same rendezvous.

On this occasion Edward II. evinced some of his father's energy. He had always been popular with the Welsh, and a large body of that nation joined his standard. On hearing of his approach, the Earls of Lancaster and Hereford raised the siege of Tickhill, and attempted to defend the line of the Trent, which was much swollen by rain; but the King passed by a ford, and the rebels retreated northwards, after setting fire to the town of Burton.

The King must have pressed them with much vigour: on the 11th March he was at Tutbury, on the 15th March the retreat of the earls was intercepted at Boroughbridge, and their forces were completely defeated and dispersed.

With reference to the part taken by Staffordshire tenants in this rebellion, the "Coram Rege" Rolls show that the following were at Burton and Boroughbridge serving against the King, viz.: James and John sons of William de Stafford, William de Chetelton, Nicholas de Longford, William Malveisin, and Richard de Stretton. John de Miners, one of the Knights of the Earl of Lancaster, was pardoned three years afterwards for having broken down the bridge of Whichnor, and preventing the King from crossing the Trent and attacking the Earl.

The Fine Rolls also show that the following Staffordshire tenants were taken prisoners at Boroughbridge, viz.: Thomas Wyther (brother of Sir William Wyther), Nicholas de Longeford, John de Meigners, John de Swynnerton, and William de Stafford. Their lives were spared, but they paid heavy fines, and found security for good behaviour.

In 15 E. II. the King granted to John de Somery for his good service the manor of Amelecote, co. Stafford (Amblecote), formerly belonging to James de Stafford, the King's enemy and rebel, and which was in the King's hands by the forfeiture of the said James, to be held by the said John for his life, dated 19th May (1322).

On the 15th June following the King granted to Ralph Basset of Drayton, for his good service, the manors of Hameldon and Market-Overton in co. Rutland, formerly belonging to Bartholomew de Baddlesmere, the King's enemy and rebel, to be held by the said Ralph for his life.¹

16 E. II., A.D. 1322-1323.

Robert Bruce taking advantage of the dissensions between the King and his Barons, entered England in this year at the head of a powerful army, and wasted the north-western counties as far as Preston in Lancashire. The King summoned his military tenants to meet him at Newcastle-upon-Tyne on the 13th June, 1322. The Staffordshire tenants summoned were the two Despencers, Henry de Lancaster, William de Ferrars, Ralph Basset of Drayton, and John de Somery. Commissions of Array were sent to Ralph de Grendon and Thomas de Halghton, commanding them to raise 1,000 men on foot in co. Stafford, to be at Newcastle-on-Tyne at the same date, and to be equipped with aketous, bacinets, and

¹ Patent Roll of Forfeitures, 15 to 17 E. II.

steel gauntlets, to be uniformly clothed ("*und secta vestiantur*"), and prepared to proceed against the Scots.

By additional writs dated from York, 11th May, the King prorogued the date of assembly to the 24th July, shortly after which (about 1st August) he entered Scotland and advanced as far as Edinburgh, but was forced to retire through want of provisions.

No Scotch Rolls exist for this, nor for the remaining years of the reign of Edward II.

17 E. II., A.D. 1323-1324.

In 1323 Robert Bruce invaded England by the Eastern Marches, and devastated the country as far as the gates of York. King Edward on his return from Scotland in October, 1322, had issued writs from York to the Sheriffs of counties, ordering them to return the names of all men-at-arms within their bailiwicks who were trained to arms, and were within the ages of sixteen and sixty. The returns to this and to later writs to the same effect of the 9th May, 1324, are extant, and have been printed by the Record Commissioners. They are extremely interesting, as they give us approximately the total force of heavily armed horsemen in England.¹

The second writ ordered all the Knights whose names had been returned to be at Westminster on the 30th May, 1324, to treat with the King, Prelates, and Barons respecting various important and difficult matters.

The following were the Knights returned for Staffordshire; the words within brackets showing their tenures within the county are added by the present writer:—

James de Audele (head of the house of Audley).

Thomas de Furnival, junior (married to one of the coheiresses of Verdon, and Lord of Alton in right of his wife).

Thomas de Pype (Lord of Pipe, and married to the widow of Edmund Baron of Stafford).

Thomas de Halghton (Lord of Haughton, High Offley, etc.).

Philip de Barinton (Lord of half of Crakemarsch and Creighton).

¹ The lists contain about 2,400 names; but in some cases they are incomplete owing to the decay of the parchment. Many names also occur twice over in the lists, and they do not comprise the men-at-arms of Wales or Chester. Making allowance for these deficiencies, the force of men-at-arms available would be about 3,000, exclusive of Ireland.

Thomas de Barinton.

Walter de Verdon (Lord of half of Crakemarsh and Creighton)

Ralph Basset of Weldon (Lord of Madeley Alfac).

Roger de Okovere (Lord of Okeover and Ilam).

John Giffard of Chilinton (Lord of Chillington and Walton).

Ralph de Grendon (Lord of Shenstone).

Robert de Grendon.

Philip de Somerville (Lord of Alrewas and Whichnor).

William de Caumville (Lord of Clifton-Campville).

Roger de Swynnerton (Lord of Swynnerton).

Richard de Vernoun (Lord of Harlaston).

John Hamelin (Lord of Oakley).

William Trussel of Cublesdone (Lord of Kiblestone and Meaford).

John de Arderne (Lord of Elford).

Ancelm le Mareschal (Lord of half of Colton).

Hugh de Menill (Lord of Hints).

Thomas de Rydeware (Lord of Rydeware Hampstal).

Nicholas de Longford (Lord of half of Ellaston).

Robert Bok (*sic*, de Bec), (Lord of Tean and Hopton).

Ralph de Rolleston (Lord of Rollestone).

Robert de Stepelton (Lord of Great Barr).

Thomas le Rous (Lord of half of Walshall and its members).

Henry de Bisshebure (Sheriff), (Lord of Bushbury and Upper Penn).

John de Swynoferton (Swynnerton), (Lord of Hilton).

Robert de Dutton (Lord of a part of the fee of Mere and Aston).

William de Stafford (Lord of Bramshall and part of Sandon).

William Wateneys (de Wasteneys), (Lord of half of Colton).

Richard de Dracote (Draycote, Lord of one-third of Leigh).

John de Hinkele (Lord of half of Aston in Stone).

John de Hastank (Lord of Chebsey).

John de Harecourt (Lord of Ellenhall).

Robert de Burs (in occupation of Chartley Castle for his life).

The names of the men-at-arms returned were:—

Stephen de Swinnerton (brother of Roger de Swynnerton).

James de Stafford }
John de Stafford } (sons of William de Stafford).

Henry de Cressewall (Lord of Cresswall).

Richard Paynel

John son of Vivian de Staundon (son of the Lord of Standon).

Richard de Wenlok of Stafford (a tenant in Bishton and Wolseley).

William de Chetelton (Lord of Cheddleton).

Thomas de Cressewell (a tenant in Tettenhall).

Ralph Basset of Chedle (Lord of Cheadle).

Philip de Barington (son of Philip de Barrington of Crake-marsh).

Philip de Chetewinde (Lord of Ingestre, Gratwich, etc.).

John de Ypstones (Lord of Ipstones and part of Blymhill).

Robert de Halghton (son of Thomas de Haughton).

Robert de Meignill } (probably sons of Hugh de Meignill of
Hugh de Meignill } Hints).

Stephen de Whetale (a tenant in Sugnall).

Roger son of Roger le Heustere (a tenant in Brewood).

Robert de Seynt Pere (tenant at the Hide in Chillington).

Geoffrey de Greseley (Lord of Kingston and Morton).

The following names are conspicuous by their absence from this list: The Baron of Stafford, Ralph Basset of Drayton, Sutton of Dudley, Bagot, Wrottesley, De Burgh, Perton, Lutteley, Trumwyne, Buffary of Nether Penn, Overton, Evenefeld, Corbet of Bromley Regis, Mauveysin, Heronville, Morton, Weston, Blount, Beysin, Purcel of Shareshill, Whiston, Knightley, Caverswall, Bromley, Venables of Stone, Marshall of Aston, Wasteneys of Tixhall, Huggefurd of Hilderstone, Lee of Fulford, Verdun of Darlaston, Mere of Norton and Aston and Wolseley.

The absence of the name of John de Sutton the Baron of Dudley shows that the list was of earlier date than 16 E. II., for in that year, in the partition of the lands of John de Somery, the last Baron of Dudley of that line, Dudley had been assigned to John de Sutton who had married the eldest of the co-heiresses.

Ralph Basset of Drayton was in Guienne, acting as Seneschall, and had in his suite probably some Staffordshire men. The heads of the families of Heronville, Knightley, Wrottesley, and Beisin were minors; others such as William de Perton¹ had never been trained to arms, or were incapacitated by bodily infirmity, or past the age of sixty. In short many reasons can readily be assigned for the absence of the other names above mentioned.

Ralph the Baron of Stafford proved his age in 16 E. II., and the

¹ This William is always styled Magister William de Perton, and was probably a lawyer, for he was frequently employed as a Justice to take the common assizes of novel disseisin, etc., within the county.

list no doubt is that sent in response to the first writ of the King of 15 E. II.

A.D. 1327, 1 E. III.

The illfated reign of Edward II. terminated on the 25th January, 1327, by his murder in Berkeley Castle. In 1322 a truce had been concluded between him and the King of Scots to last for thirteen years, but the state of affairs in England offered to Robert Bruce an opportunity which he had not the virtue to resist, and a large army under Randolph and Douglas crossed the borders early in the year and ravaged the English Marches.

The young King summoned an army to meet him at Newcastle in June on the Monday before Ascension Day, but the Scotch repeatedly refused battle, and after an inglorious campaign, terms of peace were made between the two countries, by which the King renounced his claim of superiority over the Scottish Crown, in consideration of a sum of £20,000, and the marriage of his sister with Prince David, the only son of Robert Bruce.

NOTES FROM THE SCOTCH ROLL OF 1 E. III.

A writ of 22nd April from Stamford states that the King having intelligence that the Scotch were preparing to suddenly enter the kingdom, appoints Commissioners of Array to select 2,000 men on foot in the counties of Notts and Derby, 2,000 in cos. Salop and Stafford (to be selected by Philip de Somerville and Thomas le Rous), 2,000 from cos. Warwick and Leicester, 1,000 from co. Northampton, 300 from co. Rutland, 1,000 from co. Chester, and 2,000 from co. Lincoln; the men to be at Newcastle-on-Tyne on the Monday before the Feast of the Ascension.

By another writ of the same date all the men between the ages of 16 and 60 were summoned to arms from the six Northern Counties, viz., Yorkshire, Northumberland, Westmoreland, Lancashire, Durham, and Cumberland.

The Welsh Lords were summoned to appear with all the service they owed the King, both horse and foot.

The following letters of protection were granted to Staffordshire tenants: Ralph Basset of Drayton, Hugh de Audele, and Thomas de Hastang, *cum Rege*.

Thomas de Halgton and John de Chetewynde, in the retinue of Peter Corbet of Caus. Dated from York 4th June.

Humfrey de Hastang, Baldwyne de Fryville, Ralph de Stafford, and Henry de Stonnall, in the retinue of John de Crumbewell. Dated from York 10th June.

Roger de Sumerville, in the retinue of Thomas Wake, Lord of Lidel. Dated from York 10th June.

Edmund Trussell, in the retinue of John de Moubray. Dated from York 20th June.

James de Audele. Dated from York 1st July.

A writ dated from Notyngham 30th September, states that Robert de Brus and his adherents having entered the Kingdom and besieged the Castle of Norham and other castles and fortalises in Northumberland and the Peels (*Pela*) in divers places, and having congregated all the power of Scotland with a view to destroy and subjugate the Kingdom; the King appoints Commissioners of Array to raise all the men fit for arms between the ages of 16 and 60 in the counties of Lincoln, Warwick, Leycester, Notts, Derby, Stafford, and Lancaster. Thomas de Fournivall, jun., and Thomas le Rous were the Commissioners named for Staffordshire.

A writ dated from Nottingham 5th October orders the Lords of every vill to cause all the men fit for arms between the ages of 16 and 60 to be arrayed for war, so that they may be ready within three days to proceed against the Scots when called upon.

A writ dated from Nottingham 9 October appoints Henry de Percy and William de Denum Commissioners to treat for a peace with the King of Scots.

WAR WITH SCOTLAND, A.D. 1333, 7 E. III.

In this year Edward III. having decided on supporting the claim of Edward Bailliol to the Crown of Scotland, assembled an army at Newcastle-upon-Tyne in May, and opened the campaign by the siege of Berwick. The Scotch, anxious to save so important a place, attacked the King in a strong position on Halidown Hill, and were completely defeated. The military situation was precisely similar to that of Bannockburn, but the position of the English and Scotch were reversed. In both cases the fortress besieged was to be surrendered by a given date, and in both instances the relieving army attacked the besiegers strongly posted in a position previously prepared for defence. Douglas the Regent of Scotland, and six Earls fell on the field, and the slaughter of the Scotch is said to have been greater than on any other occasion.

NOTES FROM THE SCOTCH ROLL OF 7 E. III.

The following Staffordshire tenants had letters of protection, dated from Knaresburgh 8th April:—

Ralph Basset of Drayton, and in his retinue John de Arderne, Knight, James Tromwyn, Adam Basset, John de Sutton, Richard de Stafford, John de Stafford, and Roger de Verdon.

Roger de Somerville; dated from Northallerton 8th April.

Hugh de Audele; dated Durham 9th April.

Edmund de Wasteneys, who was in Scotland,¹ had letters of attorney; dated from Durham 12th April.

By writ dated from Durham 11th April the Sheriff of Yorkshire was ordered to select 24 masons to make 500 balls (*petras*) for engines. John de Sutton and Roger de Somerville, Robert le Conestable and John de Hothum, were appointed Commissioners to raise 500 archers and 100 hobelars from the East Riding, to be properly equipped to proceed against the Scots.

The following Staffordshire tenants had letters of protection:—

William de Careswelle, in the retinue of Richard Earl of Arundel; dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 25th April.

John de Weston, in the retinue of John de Warenne Earl of Surrey; dated Newcastle 28th April.

Henry de Bysshebury and William de Ercalwe were appointed to array 1,000 men on foot from cos. Salop and Stafford, of which the greater part were to be archers, and to bring them to Newcastle-on-Tyne at a month from Easter, to proceed against the Scots. Dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 25th April.

Similar writs were issued for cos. Warwick and Leicester. 500 archers and hobelars were ordered to be arrayed in co. Derby; and 500 men on foot in co. Gloucester.

The Welsh lords were ordered to array Welshmen as follows:—

John de Warenne Earl of Surrey,	300 men,	archers and others.
Richard Earl of Arundel	200	”
John de Cherleton	500	”
William de Montagu	300	”
John Earl of Hereford	300	”
William la Zouche	300	”

¹ Balliol, assisted by a force of English from the northern counties, under the Barons of Wake and Beaumont, had recovered the Crown of Scotland in the previous year, but had lost it again through the treachery of some of his adherents.

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Elizabeth Lady of Clare	100 men, archers and others.
Hugh de Audele	100 " "
The Custos of Bergevenny	100 " "
The Custos of Pembroke	100 " "
John de Crombewalle	60 " "
The Justice of North Wales	1,500 " "
The Justice of South Wales	1,500 " "
The Justice of Chester	500 " "

Commissioners were appointed to array all the Knights and others holding of the Honors of Kanaresborough, Pomfret, Tickill, and Richmond, viz., 100 hobelars and 40 men archers and others from the Honor of Pomfret; 10 hobelars and 120 men on foot, archers, etc., from the Honor of Kanaresborough; 50 hobelars and 40 men on foot from the Honor of Richmond; and 20 hobelars and 100 men on foot from the Honor of Tickhill; and all the men of the above Baronies between the ages of 16 and 60 were ordered to equip themselves with arms and be ready to set out against the Scots at three days' notice.

Commissioners were also appointed to raise hobelars and men on foot, archers, etc., in various proportions in all the wapentakes of Yorkshire.¹ A subsequent writ orders these men to be assembled at Richmond.

The following Staffordshire tenants had letters of protection: John Bagot. Dated from Tweedmouth 15th May.

John de Langeford, in the retinue of William de Montagu. Dated Tweedmouth, 24th May.

By writ dated from Fenwick 2nd May the King's engine in the Castle of York was ordered to be forwarded to Berwick-on-Tweed.

Richard de Curzoun and Roger de Okoure (Okeover) were assigned to array 500 archers in co. Derby, and 200 hobelars, and to conduct them to Burbridge on the Sunday before the Feast of the Nativity of St. John.

The following Staffordshire tenants had letters of protection:—

Hugh le Despencer, Tweedmouth, 28th May; Philip de Engelfeld, Tweedmouth, 15th June; and Roger de Okover. Dated 24th June.

By writ dated from Berwick-on-Tweed 25th July, the King

(¹) The average was about 40 hobelars and 100 men on foot from each wapentake.

for the good service rendered in the present war by William son of Ralph le Walshe of Wolstanton, pardons him for the death of Thomas son of Richard de Cnotton. A similar pardon was granted to Peter son of Peter Tulle for the death of Thomas de Barsham of Leek; same date; to Robert de Wolsley, for the death of William Godfray; and to Walter de Stafford, for the deaths of William Par and Thomas de Ichchell. Dated from Berwick 24th July.

A general pardon for all homicides and felonies was granted to William Wither on the 25th July, and to Saer de Harecort, William de Stretton, Robert de Gresley, and Roger de Gresley, on the same date. By writ of Privy Seal.

Richard de Sondford for his good service in the present war was pardoned for the death of Adam de Chauldon; dated from Berwick-on-Tweed 23rd July. (By writ of Privy Seal.) General pardons were also granted to Richard son of Walter de Clodeshale of Bermyngham, 26th July, and to Henry de Lancaster, Hugh de Audele, James d'Audele, Thomas de Verdon, Thomas Wasteneys, and Stephen de Swynerton. Dated from Berwick-on-Tweed 26th July (by writs of Privy Seal); and to John le Archer of Alveton and John de Overton, 25th July; to Richard de Peshale, Knight, and to Roger de Swynnerton, Knight (same date).

The roll is headed : *Scotia, de anno regni R.E. tertii post conquestum septimo.*

WAR IN SCOTLAND, A.D. 1334—1338, 8 to 12 E. III.

The war between Bailliol and the partisans of David Bruce continued, with some intermissions of truce, for the four next years. So long as the former was supported by England he maintained the contest with success, but as soon as Edward III. began to assert his claim to the Crown of France, and withdrew his aid from Bailliol, the party of Bruce gradually obtained the ascendancy, and David II. was recalled from France and mounted the throne again in 1341.

NOTES FROM THE SCOTCH ROLL, 8 III., A.D. 1334.

By writ dated from Westminster 23rd September, Walter de Mauney the Sheriff of Merioneth was required to select from his county 8 men-at-arms, and 100 men on foot, *i.e.*, 50 men armed with lances and 50 archers, and to conduct them to Newcastle-upon-Tyne so that they might be there at three weeks from Michaelmas, ready to proceed against the Scots.

The following had letters of protection, viz.: Thomas son of

Hugh d'Arderne, Hugh le Despencer, Henry de Ferrars, Thomas de Ferrars, and Roger de Swynnerton. Dated from Kanaresburgh 30th October.

By writ dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 3rd November, the King appointed John de Arderne and Robert de Prayers, conjointly and separately, to conduct to him with all celerity the men-at-arms, hobelars and footmen which had been selected by Walter de Mauny for service in Scotland.

Ralph de Stafford, Chivaler, had letters of protection dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 3rd November. A writ to Ralph Basset of Drayton, Justice of North Wales, and to Richard de Peshale, states that the King being given to understand that the Scots had collected in great numbers on the marches and proposed to enter England in a hostile manner, he commands them to array in North Wales 40 men-at-arms and 400 men on foot with all celerity for service in Scotland. Dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 8th November.

Peter Corbet of Caus and Walter de Hopton were commanded to array 20 men-at-arms and 200 men on foot in South Wales.

A writ of summons to the military tenants of the Northern Counties, directs them to be at York properly equipped with horses and arms to proceed against the Scots on the Sunday after the Feast of St. Katharine. Dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 15th November. Amongst those summoned were Roger de Somerville and John de Sutton, senior.

The following had letters of protection, viz.: William de Careswalle and Nicholas de Langeford, in the retinue of Richard Earl of Arundel. Dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 15th November.

Roger de Okoure (Okeover), in the King's service, by command of the King in Scotland, had letters of protection till the Feast of Easter. Dated from Rokesburgh 10th December.

Roger de Somerville and Robert le Conestable of Flaynburgh, were appointed supervisors of the array of men-at-arms, etc., in the East Riding of Yorkshire, the liberties of Holderness and Hoveden excepted. Dated from Rokesburgh 26th November.

Hardolf de Wasteneys and Roger Curzoun were appointed to array 5 hobelars and 20 archers in the Wapentake of Strafford in the West Riding and Halumshire, in addition to the 20 hobelars and 200 men on foot previously arrayed.

Writs of summons were issued from Rockesburgh, 24th December, addressed to a number of knights and men-at-arms, commanding them to be at that place, with horses and arms, by

the Feast of the Purification; the following were summoned from Staffordshire :—

John Miners.	James de Stafford.
Robert de Vilers.	John and William his brothers
Geoffrey Beroun.	Philip de Chetewynde.
Roger de Chetewynde.	John son of William de Freford.
Thomas le Hunt.	William Champion.
Edmund his brother.	William de Morton.
John de Prestwode.	Adam de Peshale.
William de Hundesacre.	Richard de Stafford.
John de Draycote.	John de Swynnerton.
Robert de Bek.	Robert son of Robert de Bek.
William Shirard.	Henry de Bisshebury.
Roger Tromwyne.	Thomas Doly (D'Oilli).
Stephen de Lee.	

SCOTCH ROLL, 9 E. III., A.D. 1335.

A writ of summons to Mons. Thomas de Wastenays and other Lincolnshire tenants, directs them to be at Rokesburgh with horses and arms on the Feast of the Purification. Dated from Rokesburgh 1st February.

The King at the request of Edward Bailliol, whom he styles "*magnifici principis domini Edwardi Regis Scotie consanguinei nostri carissimi*," pardons Thomas son of Mauger le Vavasour for the death of Peter son of Richard de Middleton, and for the reception of those who had killed him. Dated from Nottingham 1st April.

By writ dated from Nottingham 27th March, Ralph de Stafford, Philip de Chetewynde, and Philip de Somerville were appointed to array 60 hobelars and 200 archers in co. Stafford, excepting the vill of Lichefeld. Similar writs were issued appointing commissioners of array for all counties, the men selected to be at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Trinity Day, to proceed against the Scots, who had invaded the northern counties. The writ states that each hobelar was to have a horse, an aketone or plates, a bacinet or *palettum*, a *pisam* or a *colerettum*, steel gloves, a sword, dagger and lance, or other arms. The commissioners had power to arrest and imprison all those who having been selected, refused to serve or absented themselves.

Writs of summons to the military tenants were dated from Nottingham 26th March. The Staffordshire tenants summoned personally were Ralph Basset of Drayton, Hugh de Audele, James de Audele, Henry de Ferrars, Roger de Somerville, Thomas de

Hastang, Roger de Swynarton, William de Careswell, Nicholas de Meynill, William le Botiller of Weryngton, and Ralph Basset of Weldon.

A commission to Res ap Griffith ap Howel directs him to array 2,000 footmen and 20 men-at-arms in South Wales, and to conduct them to Newcastle-on-Tyne on Trinity Day. Dated from Nottingham 27th March.

A writ to John de Cherleton le fitz directs him to array 20 men-at-arms and 1,000 footmen within the demesne of John de Cherleton, senior, of Powis, by the view and help of his father, and to conduct them to Newcastle (as before); same date.

A writ to the Mayor and Bailiff of Canterbury, orders them to array 20 hobelars in the said vill, and to send them as above. Dated from Clipstone 2nd May.

By writ dated from Cowyk, the Irish military tenants were summoned to proceed to Scotland in the retinue of John Darcy the Justice of Ireland. Amongst those summoned were Simon de Geneville, Nicholas de Verdon, Milo de Verdon, John de Wellesle, Walter de Birmyngham, Edmund de Birmyngham, Philip Purcel, John Maunsel, Gilbert de Birmyngham, Maurice fitz Philip, William Bagot, Hamund de Stafford, and members of the Irish families of Roche, Sarsefeld, Barry, Power, Bourke, Ercedecken, Cogan, and Rochfort; also to fourteen of the Irish chiefs, who are styled "Principales Hibernici."

The following had letters of protection dated from York 8th June:—

John de Weston, Chivaler, and Thomas de Weston, Chivaler, in the suite of John Earl of Cornwall, the King's brother.

Ralph de Stafford and Robert de Bereford, in the suite of Hugh de Audele.

Thomas le Rous, James de Audeleye, and William de Hyntes. Dated from York 6th June.

Robert de Halgton and Philip Durdent, in the suite of William de Montagu. Dated 7th June.

Thomas de Arderne, Hugh le Despencer, Roger de Okoure, and Nicholas de Menylle. Dated from Pykering 15th June.

Ralph le Botiller, in the suite of William de Clynton. Dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 26th June.

John de Verdon; dated from Pykering 10th June.

Robert de Grisle, in the suite of John de Norwich. Dated from Thresk (Thirsk) 16th June.

John de Freford, in the suite of Ralph de Stafford. Dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 26th June.

Humfrey de Hastang, Parson of the Church of Bradele, in the suite of Ralph de Stafford, had letters of protection dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 24th June.

John de Chetewynd, in the suite of John Lestraunge of Blaunkmonster; dated from Durham 20th June.

Thomas de Halughton, in the retinue of William de Clynton. Dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 24th June.

William Trussell, jun., and Theobald Trussell, in the retinue of Henry de Lancaster. Dated Newcastle 26th June.

Thomas de Hastang; dated Newcastle-on-Tyne 3rd July.

Robert de Ferrars, cousin and heir of Robert de Ferrars. Dated 27th July.

Robert de Ferrars and Robert son and heir of John de Ferrars; same date.

Philip de Chetewynde; dated from Carlisle 8th July.

Roger de Swynnerton and Thomas Corbet. Dated from Carlisle 12th July.

Philip de Chetewynde and Roger de Chetewynde, in the retinue of Roger de Swynnerton; dated from Carlisle 12th July, by the testimony of the said Roger.

By writs addressed to John de Cherleton, Ralph Basset of Drayton, sen., and to Richard de Hoghton, the King notifies to them that he had appointed Roger Cheyny, Henry de Bisshebury, and Roger Carles, Commissioners of Array in co. Salop; and Philip de Somerville and John de Swynnerton in co. Stafford, and two others in co. Lancashire. Dated from Carlisle 10th July.

A general pardon for all homicides, felonies, etc., was granted to Thomas de Hastang, Chivaler, for his good service in Scotland. Dated from Berwick-on-Tweed 13th October.

Also to Roger son of William Wolrich of Sondone (Sandon) Walter son of William de Stretton, William de Pirye, Geoffrey de Trentham, William de Stubbleye, Thomas Gossib of Tene, John de Wolmere, Thomas son of Robert de Wynnesbury, John de Montegomeri, Chivaler, and Richard son of Robert de Glasebrook. The King at the intercession of Henry de Lancaster likewise pardons Henry son of Henry de Kerswall for all felonies, homicides, etc. Dated from Berewick-on-Tweed 9th October.

Similar letters of pardon were granted to Henry de Kerswalle, sen., and Thomas son of Henry de Kerswalle.

Letters of pardon for good service in Scotland were also granted to Thomas de Holt of Walshale, John son of John de Sutton, Walter de Draycote, Thomas Menyll, John de Benteleye (the last three on the testimony of Henry de Lancaster).

The following received general pardons on the testimony of Roger de Swynnerton, viz.:—

William de Wetton.	Adam de Peshale.
William son of Stephen de Colton.	John de Gresseleye.
John de Podemore.	Adam de Longedon.
Roger Marion of Swynnerton.	Ralph Licoris.
	Edmund de Sutton.

And twelve others. All these must have been serving in the suite of the said Roger.

The following also obtained general pardons for their services before Rokesburgh in the past summer: Lawrence son of Henry de Waterfall, Humfrey Trumwyne, Roger de Rodesleye, and many others. Dated from Berwyk-on-Tweed 11th October, on the testimony of Henry de Lancaster.

SCOTCH ROLL, 10 E. III., A.D. 1336.

The King by writ dated from Kanaresburgh 10th February appoints Commissioners of Array for all the English counties, an invasion by the Scotch being apprehended.

Philip de Somerville and John de Swynnerton, Commissioners for co. Stafford.

By writs dated from the same place 12th February, Commissioners were appointed to array hobelars and archers in all counties. Ralph de Stafford, Philip de Chetewynde, and Philip de Somerville being appointed to select 60 hobelars and 200 archers in co. Stafford excepting the vill of Lichefeld, and to conduct them to Berwick-on-Tweed at the Octaves of Easter.

A writ from Eltham dated 1st April supersedes this writ, the men to be kept in readiness only, and not to be conducted to Berwick-on-Tweed.

Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, who had set out for Scotland, had letters of protection till Michaelmas; dated from Guldeford 18th April. John Trussel, Peter de Montefort, Roger de Chetewynde, and Philip de Chetewynde, who were in his suit, had similar letters dated from Wallingford 20th May.

A writ to Ralph de Stafford and the two other Commissioners

named above, orders them to conduct 150 of the 200 archers previously arrayed to Berewick-on-Tweed by the Feast of the Nativity of St. John, and the rest of the writ to be superseded. Dated from Wodestok 20th May.

A writ to Edward the King's son, Earl of Chester, or to his Justice of Chester, states that the hobelars and archers ordered to be arrayed in co. Chester not having yet arrived at Berwick-on-Tweed, they are requested to command John de Arderne, John de Legh, and William de Chetelton, the Commissioners of Array for the county, to send them with all celerity, so that they may be there by the Monday after the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula. Dated from the vill of St. John (Perth) 8th July.

Letters of protection were granted to John Trussell of Cubblesdon, in the retinue of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick; dated as above 10th September.

Commissioners of Array were appointed for all counties by writ dated from Leicester 3rd October.¹

Philip de Somerville and John de Swynnerton to array 2,000 men in co. Stafford, excepting the vill of Stafford (*sic*). All those having £40 or £20 of land or rent to be provided with competent arms and horses according to the King's late proclamation; and all others having £15 of land or chattels to the value of 40 marks to be armed with hauberk, a steel cap, sword and dagger, and a horse; and those with £10 of land or chattels to the value of 20 marks, with a hauberk, steel cap, sword and dagger; and those with 100s. of land with a steel cap, sword, and dagger; and those with 40s. of land and more up to 100s., with a sword, bow, arrows and dagger, according to the form of the Statute of Winchester. (There is no order to conduct the men to any place, and a writ dated from Stryvelin (Stirling) 8th November superseded it.)

Ralph de Stafford, who had proceeded to Scotland in the King's service, had letters of protection till the Feast of the Purification. Dated from Berwick-on-Tweed 28th October.

The following who were in his retinue had similar letters, viz. :—

John de Stafford, Chivaler.	Humfrey de Hastang.
Walter Culy of Haukeswell.	James de Pype.
Thomas Pecche.	John Besoun.
John Bagot.	John Hillary.
Robert de Rideware.	James de Bromwyche.

¹ This writ is printed in the "Fœdera."

Thomas Mallesores.	Thomas de Sheynton.
Thomas de Kynardesleye.	John Cressy.
Robert de Legh.	Henry Pouger.
Henry de Ossewelle.	John de Perton.
John le Bakere.	Richard de Merton.

A writ of protection was issued for Margaret the wife of Ralph de Stafford so long as her husband was in the King's service in Scotland it being asserted that certain persons were insidiously designing to abduct the said Margaret during her husband's absence ; in consequence of which the King takes her under his special protection and defence. Dated from Newcastle-on-Tyne 28th October.

John de Chetwynde, Chivaler, who had proceeded to Scotland in the suite of John l'Estraunge of Blaunkmouster, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated from Strivelyn (Stirling) 3rd November.

Similar letters were granted to John de Wasteneys and Thomas de Wasteneys, who were in the retinue of Robert de Colleville in Scotland. Dated Stirling, 10th November.

Letters of protection were also granted to William de Careswelle and Thomas de St. Maur, who were with Richard Earl of Arundel in Scotland. Dated from Botheville 24th November.

SCOTCH ROLL, 11 E. III., A.D. 1337.

John de Stafford, Chivaler, who was in Scotland in the suite of Ralph de Stafford, had letters of protection till the Nativity of St. John the Baptist. Dated from Westminster 16th March.

Ralph de Stafford, who was in Scotland in the King's service, had letters of protection till the same date. Dated from the Tower of London 3rd April.

Thomas Pecche and John Bagot and the rest of the suite as named in 10 E. III., with the exception of Walter Culy, had similar letters.

Hugh le Despencer, who was in Scotland, had letters of protection till Michaelmas. Dated from Wyndesore 1st May.

The King for the good service rendered by Walter de Cully of Haukeswelle, at Perth and elsewhere in Scotland, pardons him for the death of Richard the draper of Pollesworth. Dated from Kelentere near Strivelyn (Stirling) 13th June.¹

¹ This writ probably belongs to the previous year, for the King was not in Scotland at this date.

John de Stafford, Chivaler, who was in Scotland in the suite of Ralph de Stafford, had letters of protection till Michaelmas. Dated from Staunford 10th June.

A writ to the Commissioners of Array in all English counties, orders them to select mounted archers for the King's service, and to hold them in readiness to proceed to Canterbury within ten days when required. Dated from Westminster 5th October.

The Commissioners for Staffordshire were James de Stafford, Hugh de Menille, Malcolm de Wasteneys, Roger de Aston, and Thomas de Barynton, who were to select 110 archers in addition to 60 previously selected by Henry de Lancaster Earl of Derby.

William de Montagu Earl of Salisbury, who had set out for Scotland in the King's service, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated from Wyndesore 10th December.

The following who were in his retinue had similar letters, viz. :—

John Russel.	Roger Stevens of Wrottesleye.
William, son of Geoffrey atte Gatacre.	Richard Kemp.
John de Foulford.	Thomas Crey of Cumpton.
Hugh de Wrottesleye.	John Leg.
Ralph de Foulford.	Thomas son of Thomas Crey.
Richard de Ovyhetteshaye.	Adam de Hocley.
Thomas son of Richard de Ovyhetteshaye.	William, son of Thomas Crey, senior.
Stephen atte Touneshende of Wrottesleye. ¹	

The Commissioners to array archers named in the writ of 5th October, by another writ dated from Thame 27th October, were

¹ An entry on the Patent Roll of 11 E. III. throws some light on the object of these letters of protection, for by Letters Patent dated from Westminster 7th October, 1337, William de Sharesull, Roger de Swynnerton, and Roger Hillary were appointed Justiciaries to hear and determine the complaint of John de Perton, that Hugh de Wrottesleye, Chivaler, Roger his brother, Richard de Oveyoteshay and Thomas his son, John de Foulford and Ralph his brother, Adam de Hocleye, William son of Geoffrey atte Gatacre, Thomas Crey of Compton, John Leg, Richard Kempe, John Russel, Thomas son of Thomas Crey and William his brother, Roger Stevens of Wrottesleye, and Stephen atte Tounesende of Wrottesleye, and certain other malefactors and disturbers of the King's peace, had attacked the said John de Perton at Totenhalehome, and beaten and wounded him so that his life was despaired of. John de Perton died shortly afterwards of his wounds, and Sir Hugh de Wrottesley was granted a pardon for his death in the following year, on account of his services 'in partibus transmarinis.' (Antwerp Patent Roll, 12 E. III.)

ordered to conduct them to Newcastle-on-Tyne, and to be there by the morrow of St. Andrew.

William de Caveswelle who was with Hugh le Despencer in Scotland on the King's service, had letters of attorney till Easter. Dated from Westminster 10th December.

The chief military operation of this year in Scotland was the siege of the Castle of Dunbar. The Scottish Chronicle states under the date of 1337, that "About the same time Sir W. Montacute Earle of Salisburie, together with the Earle of Arundell, came into Scotland with a great power of men and besieged the Castle of Dunbar, lieng at the same for the space of 22 weeks (at which battell also was King Edward, the Earl of Gloucester, and the Lords Percie and Nevill). Within the said Castell was the Countesse herselfe surnamed Black Agnes of Dunbar, who showed such manlie defence, that no gain was to be got anie waies forth at hir hand, so that in the end they were constrained to raise their siege, and to depart without speed of their purpose. It is said that this Countesse used maine pleasant words in jesting and tawnting at the enimes doings, thereby the more to incourage hir souldiers. One day it chanced that the Englishmen had devised an engine called a Sow; under the pentice or covert thereof they might approch safelie to the walls; she beholding this engine, merilie said that unless the Englishmen kept their sow the better, she would make her cast her pigs, and so she after destroyed it."

Amongst the army miscellanea in the Exchequer, there is a roll containing the accounts of this expedition. William de Montagu Earl of Salisbury, and Richard Earl of Arundel were apparently joint commanders of the forces, and were styled "capitanei." The Earl of Salisbury received 8s. a day for himself, 4s. for 1 Banneret, and 2s. each for 23 Knights, and 12d. each for 106 Esquires, men-at-arms, from 1st December, 11 E. III., to 18th June, 12 E. III. (1st December, 1337, to 18th June, 1338).

£38 was paid for hurdles and other engineer's work at the siege, in which is probably contained the cost of the "Sow" above named. On the 7th June the Earl abandoned the siege and returned to Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Wages at the same rate were paid to Hugh de Audley Earl of Gloucester for himself, 2 Bannerets, 19 Knights, and 70 Esquires.

To Richard Talbot, Banneret, for himself, two Knights, and 26 Esquires.

To Giles de Badlesmere, Banneret, for himself, 3 Knights and 12 Esquires.

To Maurice de Berkeley, Knight, and 3 men-at-arms.

To Thomas de Monthermer, Knight, and 5 men-at-arms, and 6 mounted archers.

To Robert Bertram, performing the Lord of Wake's service with 10 men-at-arms.

To Roger de Weston, for the Lord of Montbray, with 9 men-at-arms.

To William de Bermingham and 2 Esquires, and to Nigel de Loryng and 1 Esquire.

Compensation was given to William de Montagu for eight horses valued at prices from 100s. to 20 marks; the highest priced horses were styled "coursier" or "destrier," the others "chevaux." In a list of horses appraised for the Scotch War *temp.* E. I., the values were occasionally much higher: a horse of Peter de Gavaston was valued at £60, and many others at £40.

WAR WITH FRANCE 12—13 E. III., A.D. 1338 and 1339.

In this year Edward III. having determined to assert his claim to the French Crown, and having made alliances with the Emperor of Germany, the Duke of Brabant, and other princes, sailed from Orwell in the summer of 1338 with a numerous fleet and landed at Antwerp. His allies however were not ready to take the field, and it was not until the autumn of 1339 that he was enabled to cross the French frontier. No military event of any consequence occurred, for the French King persistently refused battle, and after ravaging the country for a breadth of about twelve leagues, Edward returned to Brussels. He shortly afterwards set sail for England, leaving the Queen and his cousin Henry Earl of Lancaster as sureties for his return, and for the payment of an enormous debt in which his military operations had involved him.

The Earl of Salisbury was left in command of the English troops which remained in the Low Countries, and having incautiously entered the French territory with a small body of men, was

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surprised by a detachment from the garrison of Lille, and taken prisoner with a large portion of his retinue.¹ This took place in the summer of 1340.

EXTRACTS FROM THE ALMAIN ROLL² OF 12 E. III., A.D. 1338.

By writ dated from Westminster 22nd February, Commissioners were appointed for all counties to collect the wool (20,000 sacks) granted to the King by Parliament for the expenses of his foreign expedition. The Commissioners for Staffordshire were Robert Malvesin, Knight, Malcolm de Wasteneys, Knight, Roger Bride, Henry de Tytnesoure, Nicholas Reyner, Thomas le Goldsynth, and John le Roter, merchants. The Commissioners appointed on the Scotch Roll of 11 E. III. to array archers, were ordered to conduct them to Norwich, to be there at a month from Easter in readiness to accompany the King, and at his costs, wherever ordered. The Commissioners were ordered to select the best and strongest archers of their respective counties, to consist as far as possible of foresters and parkers, and who were to be provided with bows and arrows and other arms according to their *status*, and to be clothed uniformly (*de una sectâ vestitos*).

By another writ dated 6th March, John de Kynardesley was appointed one of the Commissioners in place of Hugh de Menille, who was charged with other duties for the King.

The usual writ was issued to all the great Welsh lords to array Welshmen, and to conduct them to Gippewik (Ipswich) at the same date.

A writ dated 22nd February to the Sheriffs and Bailiffs of all the maritime counties and cities, informs them that the King's admirals were ordered to arrest all ships and to prepare them for the transport of horses and men for the King's service, and to send them to the port of Orwell by the Quindene of Easter. The admirals were Bartholomew de Burghersh for the coast west of the mouth of the Thames, and Walter de Mauny from the mouth of the Thames "*ad partes boriales*."

A writ dated from Westminster 8th May, addressed to the Commissioners of Array, states that the archers ordered to be assembled at Norwich not having arrived at the date named, they

¹ Froissart.

The Roll is headed:—" *Alemannia de anno regni Regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum duodecimo*."

are to be sent to Great Yarmouth, and to be there by the Octaves of the Ascension.

A writ to the Sheriffs, Mayors, Bailiffs, etc., of cos. Oxford and Stafford, states that the King having been informed that many men of those counties concealed their wool, half of which had been granted to him by Parliament, he had appointed William de Myners his sergeant-at-arms to enquire by the oath of lawful men into the matter, and to seize the wool which had been concealed, and send it to the ports which had been specified to receive it. Dated from Walton 24th June.

Letters of protection were granted to the following Staffordshire tenants:—

Thomas de Tettebury (in the retinue of Philippa Queen of England), Thomas de Swynnerton and Henry de Lancaster Earl of Derby; and in the retinue of the Earl: Hugh de Meynill, Aluered de Sulney, Theobald Trussel, John de Rocheford, and Henry de Crasswell. Dated from Walton 22nd June.

Similar letters were granted to Roger de Wrottesle, Hugh de Wrottesle, Nicholas de Halughton, John de Stepelton, John de Whitechurch, Peter de Mountford, and Robert de Littebury, and others, in the retinue of William de Montagu Earl of Salisbury. Dated from Walton 10th July.

By writ of the Custos of the kingdom (Prince Edward) dated from Northampton 1st August, Malcolm de Wasteneys, Knight, William Trumwyne, Richard de Venables, Roger de Neuport of Lichefeld, and John le Rotour of Stafford, were appointed supervisors of the collection of sacks of wool for the King's use in Staffordshire; the price of each sack to be nine marks; the wool to be sent to Kingston-upon-Hull and to St. Bothum.

Another writ dated 4th September gives further instructions on the subject of the collection of wool, and adds Ralph de Stafford, Knight, to the above commission.

A writ of the Custos summons the following amongst others to be at Gippewich (Ipswich) by the Feast of St. Thomas, prepared with horses and arms for the King's service abroad, viz.: Robert de Greseley, Chivaler, Edmund de Greseley, Roger de Greseley, and John de Broughton, Chivaler. Dated 7th November.

By writ dated 24th December William de Chetelton, Chivaler, Roger de Greseley, and Adam de Peshale were appointed to select 110 archers from co. Stafford, and to take them to the King abroad.

ALMAIN ROLL, 13 E. III., A.D. 1339.

By writ issued by the *Custos* 16th February, Roger Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, Ralph Basset, Ralph de Stafford, and Thomas de Halghton were appointed Commissioners of Array in Staffordshire.

A writ directs William de Chetelton, Knight, and Roger de Greseley, commissioners, to array 100 archers in co. Stafford, and to take them to the King abroad; to be at Gippewic (Ipswich) with them by the Octaves of Easter. Dated by the *Custos* from Wynton 16th March

The following Staffordshire tenants had letters of protection, viz. :—

William Trussel of Cublesdon, 28th June, to last till Michaelmas.

Robert de Rideware, Knight; 7th October.

Robert de Stangreve, in the suite of Ralph de Stafford; 6th October.

Ralph de Stafford, dated 6th October.

Adam Banastre, in the suite of Ralph de Stafford; 6th October.

Edward le Despencer, in the suite of Henry de Ferars, had letters of protection dated 17th October, to last till the Purification.

William Trussel, Admiral of the fleet of the ships from the mouth of the Thames to the west, had letters of protection, etc., dated 3rd November, by the *Custos* apud Kenynton.

Walter de Mauny who had set out to parts beyond seas on the service of the King, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated from Langele 28th November.

A.D. 1340.

In this year the King sailed from Orwell on the 22nd June, and defeated the French fleet off Shuys on 24th June. He afterwards besieged Tournay unsuccessfully, and a truce was concluded on the 25th September.

ALMAIN ROLL, 14 E. III., A.D. 1340.

Thomas de Swynnerton, in the King's service abroad, had letters of general attorney, under the names of Richard de Peshale, Chivaler, and William de Surton. Dated 22nd June.

John de Stafford, Robert Mauveisin, Adam de Pesschale, Richard de Venables, Roger Wryde, and John Rotour of Stafford, were appointed Commissioners to take 400 sacks of wool for the King's

use in Staffordshire, part of 20,000 granted to the King by Parliament. Dated by the *Custos* at Westminster, 28th July.

The following Staffordshire tenants, who were abroad in the King's service, had letters of protection till Christmas:—

John de Ferers and Hugh Venables, in the suite of Walter de Mauny. Dated 13th May.

Richard de Tettebury and William de Audley, in the suite of H. Bishop of Lincoln. Dated 6th June.

Robert son of John de Ferars. Dated 5th August.

John de Verdoun, in the suite of Henry de Ferars. Dated 8th July.

John de Kynardesey, *cum Rege*. Dated 21st June.

William de Careswell, in the suite of Hugh le Despencer. Dated 12th June.

William Trussel of Cublesdon, *cum Rege*. Dated 9th June.

William Pany, in the suite of Hugh le Despencer. Dated 21st August.

William Corbet, Robert Corbet, Walter de Stafford, Robert de Redewale, John Dotdigrelys (*sic*), Thomas Passelewe, John de Lotbroc, Robert de Rodyswale, and William de Merst, in the suite of Ralph de Stafford. Dated 20th August.

Fulk de Birmyngnam, who was in the King's service abroad, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated by the *Custos*, 28th August.

William son of William de Gresbrok, about to set out for foreign parts, had letters of attorney to last for a year. Dated by the *Custos*, from Walingford, 15th November.

Thomas de Holand, who was in the King's service abroad, had letters of protection till the Nativity of St. John. Dated by the King at Westminster 6th January.

ALMAIN ROLL, 15 E. III., A.D. 1341.

William Trussel, senior, who had set out in the King's service to parts beyond sea, had letters of protection till Pentecost. Dated from Langele, 8th April.

Thomas de Holand, who was abroad in the King's service, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated 2nd May, from Westminster.

Robert Mauveisin, Chivaler, John de Aston, Chivaler, William de Perton, Symon de Ruggeleye, Ralph Basset of Chedle, and Richard de Mortimer, were appointed to collect 250 sacks of wool in co. Stafford for the King's use, granted by Parliament. Dated 1st June.

Robert Corbet of Morton, Robert de Gryseleye, and Malcolm de Harley were appointed Commissioners to array 100 archers in co. Salop, and 100 in co. Stafford, and to conduct them to Winchelsea at the Octaves of the Assumption. Dated from the Tower of London, 10th July.

The King by writs dated from Westminster 3rd October, orders various Sergeants-at-arms to arrest all ships in port, and to send them to Portsmouth for the purpose of conveying his nobles (magnates) and other liege men into Brittany on the King's service.

RENEWAL OF WAR WITH FRANCE, A.D. 1342, 16 E. III.

In this year the dispute respecting the succession to Brittany led to a renewal of the war between the English and the French. The truce between the two countries did not expire till the month of June, but Charles de Blois, one of the claimants, having obtained possession of Nantes by surprise, and taken his rival John de Montfort prisoner, an English force under the command of Sir Walter Mauny was sent early in the year to the relief of Hennebon, to which Joan de Montfort the wife of John had retired with her infant son, and which was closely invested by the forces of Charles.

The story of the gallant defence of Hennebon by Joan de Montfort and its relief by Sir Walter de Mauni will be found in all the histories of the period; but Froissart's account of the reception by Joan of her English allies is worth transcribing.

The terms of the capitulation had been already arranged when the English fleet was descried upon the horizon. All thoughts of a surrender were immediately abandoned, and the force under de Mauni having dispersed the French besiegers and burnt their engines, were able to communicate with the besieged. "A donc," says Froissart, "vit la Comtesse descendre du chatel à grand chère et baiser Messire Gautier de Mauny et ses compagnons les uns après les autres deux ou trois fois, bien put dire que c'étoit une vaillant dame."

One of Walter's companions on this occasion was Ralph the Baron of Stafford, and he had in his retinue the following Staffordshire Knights, viz., Philip de Chetewynd, Henry de Cresswell, John Hastang, John de Weston, Hugh de Wrottesleye, John de Sutton, and James de Pype. I am afraid, however, that the valiant Countess's embraces would be limited to the Knights "*portant bannière*."

By close writ dated 25th January, 16 E. III., fifty-seven sacks of wool, of the value of £8 each sack, were granted to Ralph de Stafford for the maintenance of 50 men-at-arms in the King's service, of which two were Bannerets, sixteen were Knights, and fifty-one Esquires. A Banneret to receive 4s. a-day, a Knight 2s., and an Esquire 1s.

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 16 E. III., A.D. 1342.

A writ to Richard Earl of Arundel, Justice of North Wales, Roger Trumwyne and others, orders them to collect and array 600 Welshmen armed with lances and other fit arms; to be uniformly clothed, and arrayed by hundreds and twenties; every centenary to be horsed, and to be ready by the Feast of the Ascension to proceed with the King, at his wages; the Chamberlain of North Wales to find the wages for them till they arrived at their destination. Dated from Westminster, 1st March.

Similar writs were issued to John de Cherleton Lord of Powys to collect 500 men.

To John de Warenne Earl of Surrey to collect 400 men.

To William de Montagu Earl of Salisbury to collect 300 men.

Richard Earl of Arundel 300 men from his lands of Chirk and Oswestry.

Joan Countess de la March, Lady of Wygemore, 100 men.

Thomas Bishop of Hereford, 50 men.

Edward Prince of Wales, 40 men from Hope and Monhaut (Mold).

A writ to Philip ap Rees and Miles Pichard orders them to array 200 Welsh archers. Dated 10th April.

A writ to the Sheriff of Kent ordering him to collect ships at Sandwich for the passage of Ralph de Stafford into Brittany, to be provided with "*pontes, claias, bordas* and other necessities for the shipment of horses, and to be ready by the Wednesday before the Quindene of Easter. Dated Eltham, 2nd April.

Thomas de Passele, in the retinue of Ralph de Stafford, had letters of general attorney, dated 6th July.

The following, who were abroad in the King's service in the retinue of Ralph de Stafford, had letters of protection, dated 22nd August, and to last till Easter, viz.—

Robert de Lye.

Philip de Chetewynde.

John de Stafford.

John de Weston.

Walter de Stafford.

Hugh de Wrottesleye.

John de Mokeleston.

John de Sutton.

Henry de Crassewalle.

James de Pype, and 10

John Hastang.

others.

A writ to Robert Corbet of Morton, Robert de Greseleye, and Malcolm de Harley, orders them to raise 100 archers in co. Salop, and 100 in co. Stafford, at the cost of those counties, and to send them well provided with arms to Winchelsea with all celerity. Dated by the King from the Tower of London, 15th August.

William de Careswell, in the retinue of Bartholomew de Burghersh, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 10th September.

James de Stafford, Chivaler, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 12th September.

Thomas de Wasteney, Chivaler, who was in the retinue of Nicholas de Cantilupe, had letters of general attorney dated 10th September.

Richard de Stafford, in the retinue of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 22nd September.

William Trussel of Cubblesdon had the same. Dated 24th September.

Writs were issued to the Sheriffs of all counties ordering them to collect sheafs of arrows and bow-strings for the King's service, and to send them to the Tower of London with all speed. Dated by the *Custos* from Kenynton 8th October. The Sheriff of Staffordshire and Salop was ordered to supply 500 sheafs of arrows and 1,000 bow-strings.

Thomas de Wasteney, who was abroad in the King's service with Henry de Lancaster Earl of Derby, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 8th October.

Letters of protection to last till Easter were granted to John de Ferrars, who was with Walter de Mauny, dated 30th October; and to William de Myners, the King's Sergeant-at-arms (*serviens Regis ad arma*), dated 8th October.

Robert son and heir of Robert de Holand, Chivaler, in the retinue of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 26th October.

A writ to Gilbert Talbot Justice of South Wales, commands him to raise 847 Welsh archers, and to collect them at Portsmouth on the 1st March prepared to pass over into Brittany.

Similar writs were sent to the following, viz. :—

Henry de Lancaster Earl of Derby, to raise 123 men.

John de Moubray, 123 men from his lands of Gower.
 Hugh le Despencer, 332 men from his lands in Morgan and Morgannon.

Hugh de Audele Earl of Gloucester, 166 men from Neuport.
 Mary Countess of Norfolk, 123 men from Strigull and other places.
 Elizabeth de Burgo, 166 men from Usk and Karleon.
 Laurence de Hastings Earl of Pembroke, 166 men.
 Humfrey de Bohun Earl of Essex and Hereford, 280 men.
 James de Audele, 40 men.

Henry Earl of Lancaster, 166 men from Monemouth, and the Earl of Huntingdon 30 men. All these men were to be archers.

A writ to the Justices of North Wales and to the great Welsh Lords, dated 16th December, orders them to raise Welshmen armed with lances or archers for the King's service, and to collect them at Portsmouth on the 1st March.

Richard Earl of Arundel, Justice of North Wales, to raise 496 men.

John de Warenne, Earl of Surrey, 332 men.

John de Cherleton, 415 men.

Roger de Grey, 166 men.

Roger de Mortimer of Wigmore, 83 men.

The Bishop of Hereford, 40 men.

William de Montagu Earl of Salisbury, 518 men.

Edward Earl of Chester, 332 Welshmen.

A writ in French to the principal tenants of the Crown orders them to find men-at-arms and archers for the King's service, dated 20th December. The only Staffordshire tenant summoned by this writ was Monsieur James d'Audele, who was to find 20 men-at-arms and 20 archers. Ralph Baron Stafford was already in France, and the other Staffordshire Barons were in Aquitaine with the Earl of Lancaster.

A writ to Robert de Gresele, Adam de Pesehale, Roger Trumwyn, and Simon de Ruggele, Commissioners of Array for co. Stafford, orders them to send the archers who had not yet joined the King to Portsmouth on the 1st March for embarkation, and to send fifty additional archers, who were to be clothed uniformly. Dated by the *Custos* 20th December.

A writ to Griffin ap David ap Elias and John Godynogh¹ of

¹ An old Welsh name which has been corrupted to Goodenough.

Conewey, appoints them to lead the Welshmen from the lordship of Powis, who were to be taken to Winchelsea for embarkation. The Welsh to be clothed uniformly (*de und secta vestiri*). Another writ to John de Cherleton Lord of Powis notifies the same to him Dated Castry, 26th September.

A writ to Philip ap Rees and Miles Pichard orders them to raise 30 Welshmen from the King's land of Blenleveny, to be clothed uniformly, and to be conducted to Winchelsea for embarkation. Dated from Castry, 28th September.

Similar writs to Roger de Mortimer and other Welsh lords.

Nicholas de Vernoun, who found Richard de Cornewaille, Chivaler, and Ralph de Vernun, Chivaler, of co. Stafford, as his sureties,¹ had a general pardon, dated from Castry 12th September.

Hugh son of Peter Giffard of Gunston, who found Peter Dany of Eyntebarrowe of co. Worcester, and Hugh son of Henry de Gunston of co. Stafford, as his sureties, etc., had a general pardon for all homicides, etc. Dated from Castry 16th September.

OPERATIONS IN BRITTANY, A.D. 1342-1343.

The force under de Mauni was too weak to take the field, but according to Froissart the English distinguished themselves by numerous exploits in the neighbourhood of Hennebon. On the 5th October, 1342, the King sailed from Sandwich with an army of about 12,000 men, and shortly afterwards besieged the three towns of Rennes, Vannes, and Nantes. Walter de Mauni's force formed a part of the army which invested Vannes, and it was during this siege that Ralph Lord Stafford and a portion of his retinue were taken prisoners under circumstances very characteristic of the age, and which, as recounted by Froissart, read more like the schoolboy's game of Tom Tiddler's ground than an episode of serious warfare.

The Earls of Warwick and Arundel, the Baron of Stafford, and Walter de Mauni, by way of defying the French garrison, advanced up to the barriers of the place, planted their standards in the ground, and retired. In answer to this defiance the French opened wide the gates of the town, and on the English taking no notice of this, shortly afterwards advanced to take the banners. Then, says Froissart, "*La eut fait tant de belles appertises d'armes que merveille serait à raconter, car les Anglois qui veoient la porte ouverte, le tenoient à grand dépit.*" During the skirmish which ensued the

¹ The sureties were found that the individual who obtained the pardon would serve at his own costs (*quandis nobis placuerit*).

Baron of Stafford and a portion of his retinue forced their way beyond the outer barriers, and being enclosed between them and the town gates, were taken prisoners.

On the 19th January 1343, a truce was concluded between the English and French King, through the mediation of the Pope, Clement VI. This truce was to last till Michaelmas, 1346, during which time negotiations for a durable peace were to be carried on, but it was badly kept by both sides. One of the conditions stipulated for the release of John de Montfort; but the French King retaining him a prisoner, notwithstanding the expostulations of King Edward, the English retaliated by a raid upon the French, in which a Staffordshire Knight appears to have taken a prominent part.

The Pope writes to the King from Avignon in October, 1343, in the following terms:—¹

"Clement the Bishop, etc., to his most beloved and illustrious son in Christ, Edward King of England, health and apostolic blessing.

"It has been lately notified to us that whereas our venerable brothers Peter Bishop of Penestre, and Anibal Bishop of Tusculum, Ambassadors (nuncios) of the Holy See, having accepted truces and engagements from both sides, between thee, our well beloved son, and our well beloved son Philip King of France, and whilst these were pending and in force, our beloved son, a nobleman named Ralph de Montfort, and certain other nobles, who were with him in the army of the King of France, being asleep in their beds by night, esteeming themselves safe under the protection of the truces and engagements which had up to that time been unbroken, one named Hugh de Wrocelesse, with other armed men of the retinue of our beloved son the noble Earl of Narantune,² coming secretly and suddenly, violently seized the said Ralph and the other nobles who were with him, and who were naked and helpless (*nudos et inhermes*), and took them captive to the said Earl, who still detains them as prisoners, and subjected to various losses and injuries to their persons and effects, even to the extent of having been deprived of a considerable sum of money in gold.

"And as such acts, if their truth be established, should not be tolerated by regal majesty, nor are suitable to the honour and

¹ Bymer's "*Fœdera*." The original is in Latin.

² William de Bohun Earl of Northampton, who was Earl Marshal of the English army.

good fame of the Earl, we beg of your royal majesty, and diligently exhort you in the Lord, to interpose your royal authority for the liberation of the captives, and for the reparation of their losses by the Earl, so that the honour and justice of the King, and the good fame of the Earl, may be vindicated, and so that we may extoll in the future from our heart your royal devotion."

The King answers under date of 29th November from Westminster, that he had always observed the truce in good faith which had been made between him and Philip King of France, even when other parties to it had not done so, and he had complained that they had violated the truce, even in the presence of the Papal Legates who had been sent to obtain a better observance of it, and he therefore prayed the Pope to interpose with the other side for the more efficient maintenance of it; and he was certain that if the Legates made inquiry, they would find that he was not the party who could be reasonably blamed for its infraction."

The principal actor in this exploit was Hugh de Wrotesley, one of the most distinguished men-at-arms of the period, and who was shortly afterwards enrolled amongst the original Knights of the Garter.¹

RENEWAL OF WAR, A.D. 1345-1346, 19 AND 20 E. III.

Negotiations for a permanent peace between France and England had been carried on before the Pope Clement VI., but without success. The King's cousin Henry of Lancaster was therefore sent to Guienne to defend that province, and by writ dated 24th April the King appointed William de Bohun Earl of Northampton his "*Capitaneus*" in France, and in the Duchy of Brittany, with instructions formally to defy Philip de Valois, who was unjustly occupying the throne of France, and who had violated the truce and refused all redress.

Guienne was divided into two factions, the English and the French, and it was considered that the presence of a Prince of the Blood would tend to prevent further defections, and perhaps restore the allegiance of many who had attached themselves to

¹ Rymer has printed the name as I have written it above, but as the "c" and "t" are indistinguishable in writing of this period, the name may have been originally written Wrotelesse, and, curiously enough, this is precisely the mode of pronunciation adopted by the French officers with whom the present writer came in contact during the Russian War of 1854. Pope Clement was a Frenchman, and French was the language in vogue at this time in the Papal Curia at Avignon.

the French party. Henry Earl of Lancaster was besides one of the most renowned and popular warriors of the day. He left England with a small force of men-at-arms and archers, and being joined by many of the Gascon nobility, he soon recovered the greater part of the places which had admitted French garrisons. The most important action was fought under the walls of Auberoche, where the Earl, with a handful of men hastily summoned together, surprised the French who were besieging the place, and completely defeated and dispersed them.

The retinue of the Earl of Lancaster in Aquitaine in 19-20, E. III. has been preserved amongst the Army Miscellanea of the Exchequer in the Record Office. It comprised 8 Bannerets, of whom Hugh de Meignil was one, and 92 Knights, amongst whom were John de St. Pierre, the son of Urian de St. Pierre, John de Verdon le fitz, Richard de Audeley, Roger de Chetwind, Robert de Greseley, William de Meignill, Ralph Camoys, Neel Loryng, Hurtand de Burgoyne, and others.

He was accompanied on this expedition by Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, Laurence de Hastings, the Earl of Pembroke, and Walter de Mauny. Besides these, Ralph Baron of Stafford had been appointed Seneschal of Gascony, and was attended by a large retinue, amongst whom were:—

James de Pype.	Roger de Aston.
William de Mersh.	John d'Oilly.
Vivian de Staundon.	John de Loges.
William de Hondesacre.	William de Mussinden (armorer).
Matthew de Haydok.	Walter de Fauconberge.
John de Hyde.	William de Graystok.
James de Stafford.	John de Stafford.
Thomas de Pecche.	William de Stodleye.
Peter de Lymesye.	John d'Odyngeseles.
Edmund de Odyngeseles.	John de Mountfort.

The above had letters of protection dated 20th April,¹ 1345.

In the following year Ralph de Stafford resigned the office of Seneschal, having probably obtained private information of the King's intention to land in Normandy in place of proceeding to Guienne to join the Earl of Lancaster. By writ of 15th March 20 E. III. (A.D. 1346), the King informs Henry Earl of Lancaster

¹ Gascon Roll, 19 E. III.

that Ralph Baron of Stafford had been exonerated from the office of Seneschal of Gascony at his own request.

Amongst the Army Miscellanea of the Exchequer, there is an account of the wages of men-at-arms and others in the retinue of James de Audeley Lord of Helegh, with Henry Earl of Derby in Gascony, in 19 E. III. The account is for 197 days, viz., from (26th April, when they started from the Castle at Helegh co. Stafford, until) the 18th May, when they were accepted (*sic*) by the Earl, until the last day of November following, each Knight receiving 2s. per diem, each Esquire 1s., and each archer 3d. (The words in brackets have been scored out.)

The men-at-arms were :—

John Tromwyn, Knight.	Hamon le Massi.
William de Rugge.	Thomas le Massi.
John del Halle.	John de Burton.
Thomas de Chesewortham.	Robert de Dutton.
Nicholas de Harle.	John de Bispeston.
John de Thuddene.	John de Rodney.
Robert de Grendon.	Ralph de Marchinton.
Philip de Grendon.	John Meverel.
John de Hinkele.	John de Coton.
John Dampport.	William de Linford
Roger Tromwyn.	Thomas de Hodenet.
Thomas de Wetenhale.	Geoffrey de Dutton.
John Tromwyn.	Elyas de Wovera.
John de Kerdef.	John de Swynnerton.
Oliver del Lee.	Nicholas de Vernon.
Robert de Vernon.	John Dennys.
William de Cruwe.	David de Cruwe.
Robert Griffin.	Thomas Starkey.
William Mattele.	John Blag.
William Wodnot.	John le Lassi.
William de Thicknes.	

There were also 40 mounted archers, amongst whom were Jordan Dampport, Roger Dampport, Nicholas de Roulegh, John de Roulegh, John de Prestwode, John de Ovyoteshay, John de Whitemor, Thomas de Whytemore, William de Tunstal, John Sondbach, and John de Podmore.¹

¹ I see from the Retinue Rolls that every man-at-arms had an archer attached to him, and occasionally more than one. Many of these mounted archers were apparently men of good birth.

Whilst these operations were in progress in Guienne, the King proceeded with an army to Flanders, with a view of obtaining that Earldom for his eldest son, but his chief partisan James von Arteveldt having been killed in a popular tumult at Ghent on the 17th July, he returned to England on the 26th of the same month.

FRENCH ROLL, 19 E. III. A.D. 1345.

By writ dated 25th February (1345), James de Stafford, John de Stafford, Adam de Peshale, and William Trumwyne were ordered to select 128 of the best and strongest archers of co. Stafford, and to equip them with bows and arrows and other suitable arms, so that they might be ready by the Quindene of Easter to accompany Henry de Lancaster Earl of Derby on the King's service, and in his pay. Similar writs were sent to Commissioners of Array in Lancashire and Derbyshire. A later writ dated 12th March directs them to send the archers to Southampton by the Vigil of Pentecost.

A writ to Robert de Offord Earl of Suffolk, Admiral of the Fleet from the Thames northwards, directs him to arrest all ships and barges and boats fit to cross the seas, and to send them to the Tower of London. Dated from Westminster, 10th March.

A similar writ was sent to Richard Earl of Arundel, Admiral of the Fleet from the Thames westward.

A writ to the Prince of Wales directs him to send 500 Welshmen with Henry Earl of Derby, and to select a fit leader for them, who is to conduct them to Southampton by the Vigil of Pentecost. Dated 8th April.

A writ to all Sheriffs of counties *citra* Trent, directs them to send arrows and bow-strings to the Tower of London for the King's use. The Sheriff of Staffordshire was ordered to provide 500 sheafs of arrows and 1,000 bow-strings.

A writ to the Sheriffs and Mayors and Bailiffs states that the King had appointed his beloved Valet Roger de Elmerigge to raise 50 mounted archers in the counties of Salop, Worcester, and Hereford, for the special defence of his person, and who were to be at Sandwich on the Vigil of Pentecost. Dated from Gildeford, 25th May.

A writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs of London directs them to send the 160 archers to be provided by the city of London to Sandwich on the Vigil of Pentecost, to be properly equipped with bows and arrows and other suitable arms, and to be led by fit leaders. Dated from Wyndesore, 20th May.

Richard Earl of Arundel, Admiral of the coast to the west of the Thames, was ordered to provide shipping at Dartmouth for the embarkation of Hugh de Courteney Earl of Devon and his retinue; and the Sheriff of Devonshire was ordered to equip the ships with the necessary bridges, decks, and bulwarks for the embarkation of horses. Dated 16th April.

The King by writ dated 16th April appoints attorneys for Ralph Basset of Weldon, who was under age and in the King's custody, and was about to set out abroad in the retinue of William de Bohun Earl of Northampton.

A writ dated Westminster, 24th April, appoints William de Bohun Earl of Northampton Captain in France and in the Duchy of Brittany, and directs him to defy Philip de Valois, who was unjustly occupying the throne of France, and who had violated the truce made between him and the King.

A writ to Edward Prince of Wales directs him to send the Welsh arrayed by him, to Sandwich by the Octaves of Trinity. Dated from Westminster, 20th May. A similar writ dated 25th April had been sent to the Commissioners of Array in the English counties.

Nicholas de Kynardesle and John Giffard, about to set out for Brittany in the retinue of John de Veer Earl of Oxford, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 23rd May.

John son of Walter de Beysin, about to set out for Brittany in the retinue of William de Bohun Earl of Northampton, had the same. Dated 17th May.

Thomas le Rous, in the retinue of John d'Arcy le Piere, had the same. Dated 18th May.

Walter de Hopton, John Botetourt, Henry de Byrmingham, Fulk de Byrmingham, William de Byrmingham, Andrew de Evenefeld, and John de Perton, in the retinue of William de Clynton Earl of Huntynndon, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated 10th June.

Thomas de Gasteneys, Chivaler, in the retinue of the Earl of Warwick, had letters of attorney in the names of William de Houghton, the Parson of the Church of Colton, and Thomas de Napton. Dated 13th June.

Richard de Stafford and William de Hopewas, in the retinue of the King, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 8th June.

Hugh de Meignill, in the retinue of Henry de Lancaster Earl of Derby, had the same. Dated 20th May.

Hugh le Despencer and William Trussel of Cublesdon, in the retinue of the King, had the same till Christmas. Dated from Sandwich, 20th June.

Henry de Bemyngham, Chivaler, and Fulk de Bermingham, in the retinue of William de Clinton Earl of Huntingdon, had letters of attorney. Dated as above.

Thomas Wasteneys, Robert son of Robert de Holand, Chivaler, and others, in the retinue of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated as above.

A proclamation by the King, dated from Westminster, 14th June, notifies his claim to the Crown of France, and the dissolution of all treaties between him and Philip de Valois.

Rese ap Griffith, Chivaler, who was in the King's service beyond the seas, had letters of attorney in the names of William Champion and John de Somerville. Dated 15th June, from Sandwich.

William Trumwyne, Adam Salewey, John de Wytegreve, Richard de Pulesdone, Thomas de Wyrleye, John son of Emma Trumwyne, Richard Trumwyne, William Reynald, and others of the retinue of Robert de Ferrars, had letters of protection till Michaelmas. Dated by the *Custos* from Redyng, 8th July.

Writs of military summons were sent by the *Custos* on the 4th July to a number of Bannerets, Knights, and Esquires of all counties *citra* Trent. The following were summoned from co Stafford:—

John Trussel of Cublesdon	}	Knights.
William de Chetelton		
Walter de Rideware		
James de Stafford		
Henry de Braylesford		
John de Draycote		
Robert Mauveysyn		
Malcolm de Wasteneys		
Adam de Peshale	}	Esquires.
John son of John de Swynnerton		
William Sherard of Chetelton		
John de Verney		

The writ directs them to prepare themselves with horses and arms by the Feast of St. Lawrence to embark with the King at his wages.¹

¹ Knights and Esquires, in fact all men-at-arms of less rank than Bannerets, were summoned through the Sheriffs of Counties, and a summons like the above

78. MILITARY SERVICE PERFORMED BY STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS.

FRENCH ROLL, 19 E. III., A.D. 1345. PART 2.

A writ to Richard Earl of Arundel, Admiral of the Fleet from the mouth of the Thames westwards, directs him to arrest all ships of thirty tons and upwards, and to send them to Portsmouth so that they might be there or within the waters of the Isle of Wight by the Octaves of Michaelmas. Dated 28th August.

A writ to Edward Prince of Wales, directs him to array 2,000 men from North Wales, and 2,000 from South Wales; half to be armed with lances, and half to be archers and to collect them at Portsmouth by three weeks from Michaelmas. Dated 28th August.

Thomas de Swynnerton, Richard de Stafford, and the Sheriff of the county, were ordered to array 160 archers in co. Stafford, to be selected from the best and strongest archers of the county, and to supply them with suitable bows and arrows and other weapons, and to conduct them to Portsmouth at three weeks from Michaelmas. Similar writs were issued to all counties *citra* Trent. Dated 28th August.

Writs were issued appointing Commissioners of Array for all counties *citra* Trent, with instructions to array all men between the ages of 16 and 60, who were to be ready to embark from Portsmouth at three weeks from Michaelmas. Dated 28th August.

Writ commanding the Sheriff of Staffordshire to send 250 sheafs of arrows to the Tower of London; dated from Windsor, 12th September. A similar writ was sent to other Sheriffs.

Writ to the Mayor and Sheriffs of London, directing them to send the 320 archers provided by the City of London to Portsmouth at three weeks from Michaelmas. Dated 29th September.

The Sheriffs of Lancashire and Staffordshire were ordered to make proclamation that all who held conditional letters of pardon for felonies, etc., should prepare themselves to proceed abroad in the King's service by the Octaves of Michaelmas. This writ annuls a previous one which ordered them to be at Portsmouth at the same date.

A writ dated from Redyng, 20th January (1346), directs the Commissioners of Array to postpone the assembly of the army till the Sunday in Mid-Lent.

appearing on the Rolls is quite abnormal. The King set sail on the 3rd July from Sandwich, and these summonses were evidently sent to those who had not appeared up to that date. The date named in them is the 10th August, by which time the ships could have returned for a new freight of men and horses, but owing to the murder of von Arteveldt, the King returned himself from the Low Countries on the 26th July.

A writ to Edward Prince of Wales commands him to array 4,000 Welshmen, of which half were to be armed with lances and half to be archers, and to array 100 archers in co. Chester; the forces to be collected at Portsmouth by the Sunday in Mid-Lent, prepared to embark with the King, and at his wages.

A writ addressed to all Sheriffs of counties *citra* Trent orders a general levy of all men between the ages of 16 and 60. It states that the King's enemy Philip de Valois had collected forces to invade England, in consequence of which the King had ordered an army as strong as possible to be congregated at Portsmouth by the Sunday in Mid-Lent. Dated 20th January (1346).

A writ to Bartholomew de Burghersh, Constable of Dover and *Custos* of the Cinque Ports, directs him to arrest all ships within his jurisdiction of thirty tons and upwards, and to send them to Portsmouth by the Quindene of the Purification (16th February, 1346). Dated from the Tower of London, 7th January.

WAR IN FRANCE, A.D. 1346, 20 E. III.

The King having collected a numerous force, sailed from Portsmouth in July of this year, with a view ostensibly of joining the Earl of Lancaster in Guienne; but suddenly altering his course, he landed at La Hogue in Normandy on the 10th July. The province was defenceless, the French forces having been concentrated in the south, and Edward ravaged the country as far as Paris; the towns of Carentan, St. Lo, and Caen were taken by storm, and the French prisoners taken in them, including the Constable of Normandy, 60 Knights, and 300 of the most opulent citizens, were sent to the fleet and conveyed to England. His light troops penetrated to the suburbs of Paris, and burnt the villages of St. Germain, St. Cloud, and Bourg la Reine. On more than one occasion he was reduced to great difficulties by the bridges being broken down; but he passed the Seine at Poissy near Versailles by a stratagem, his workmen repairing the bridge during the absence of the main body of the enemy, and under cover of the fire of his archers. The Somme was passed at a ford near its mouth during low tide, and on the 25th he halted at Crecy near Abbeville. On the following day he was attacked by a greatly superior force, but totally defeated them. On the 1st September he resumed his march, and invested Calais on the 3rd.

FRENCH ROLL, 20 E. III., A.D. 1346.

A writ to the Mayor and Aldermen, etc., of London, and to the

Mayors or Bailiffs of 140 other towns, directs them to array men for the defence of the Kingdom, and to send them to Portsmouth on the Sunday in Mid-Lent, to cross the seas with the King.

The City of London was ordered to supply 100 men-at-arms and 500 armed men, and the other towns in proportion down to Newcastle-under-Lyme, which was to provide 3 armed men. Lichfield was assessed at 15 men, and Stafford at 8; Tamworth at 4. The total number did not exceed 2,000. Dated 10th February.¹

A writ to William de Bohun Earl of Northampton and 22 other Welsh lords, directs them to array 3,500 Welsh; half to be armed with bows and arrows, and half with lances; to assign leaders to them, and to conduct them to Portsmouth on the Sunday in Mid-Lent. A similar writ to Edward Prince of Wales directs him to array 3,550 Welshmen and 50 archers from co. Chester. Dated 3rd February.

Writs to the Bailiffs of cities, etc., directing them to postpone the sending of the men to be arrayed from the towns till the Quindene of Easter.

Similar writs were sent to all the Commissioners of Array in the counties *citra* Trent, postponing the passage of men-at-arms and archers till the same date. Dated 5th March.

Thomas de Swynnerton, Richard de Stafford, and the Sheriff were appointed to array 160 archers from co. Stafford, and to send them to Portsmouth by the Quindene of Easter, prepared to embark with the King. Dated 5th March.

The writs to other Commissioners of Array show that the total number of archers was 3,580.

By writ dated 15th March, the Sheriff of Kent was ordered to erect beacons on the hills, or by other signals, to give warning of the approach of the French, who had collected a great force to invade the Kingdom.

By writ dated 1st April, Guy de Brian was directed to select 40 experienced miners from the Forest of Dene, who were to be ready to embark at the above date.

Fulk de Bermyngham, Knight, and Henry de Bermyngham, Knight, and others in the retinue of Thomas Bishop of Durham, about to proceed abroad in the King's service, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated from Porchester, 18th June.

¹ As an invasion by the Scots was apprehended, England *citra* Trent only was summoned for the King's expedition to France. The Bishop Palatine of Durham however attended the King with a numerous retinue of Knights and men-at-arms.

Thomas de Halghton, Malcolm Wasteneys, Thomas de Barynton, John de la Lee, and the Sheriff, were appointed Commissioners of Array for co. Stafford by writ dated 10th March. The instructions to them were to array "*equites*" in *Constabulariis*, and the "*pedites*" in hundreds and twenties.

A writ addressed to John d'Arderne¹ directs him to be at Portsmouth at the Quindene of Easter, prepared to embark with the King as a *Banneret* ("*quod vos equis et armis ad modum Baneretti quanto decentius et potencius, prout ad statum vestrum pertinet, vos paretis, etc.*") Dated from Westminster, 15th March.

Assessors appointed 28th March for all counties *citra* Trent. The writ states that with the assent of the magnates and other liege men of the King, it had been ordained that all who held 100s. or 10 marks of land or rent should find an archer; and those of £10 or 20 marks, a hobelar; and those of £20, two hobelars; and those assessed at £25, a man-at-arms, and so on in proportion. The assessors for cos. Stafford and Salop were Robert de Ferrars and Henry Haydok, Clericus. The men selected were to be at

¹ Probably Sir John Arderne of Elford, co. Stafford, and who held large estates in Cheshire in *capite* of the Prince of Wales, as Earl of Chester. This summons to serve as a Banneret is, I think, unique, for I have never met with one similar to it.

The reader may expect me to say something here, perhaps, on the much debated question of what constituted a Banneret. My own opinion is that a Banneret was merely a Knight, whose large estates enabled him, and in fact obliged him, to bring into the field a retinue of Knights or men-at-arms who served under him. Such Knights would necessarily carry a standard or banner, their names would be retained on the Marshall's Rolls, they were personally summoned, like the Barons, to attend the King in every warlike expedition, and they thus became Bannerets by prescription. In Staffordshire I can trace three of these, viz., the Hastangs Lords of Chebsey, the Campvilles, Lords of Clifton-Campville, and the Harcourts of Ellenhall. An inquisition on the last of the Hastangs shows that one of the tenants at Chebsey held his land for the service of carrying his lord's banner in time of war. In addition to these hereditary Bannerets, as they may be called, there were others, who commencing as simple Knights, evinced in the course of a war exceptional military talents, and were placed in command of large bodies of men. Of this kind would be Sir Robert Knollys, Sir Walter Hewet, and the famous Hawkewood, all of whom bore banners. A third class of Bannerets would be men, like Sir Roger de Swynnerton, living *temp.* E. II., who obtained for his services to the Crown extensive possessions and a large annuity for his life, and Sir William de Caverswall, *temp.* E. III., who married the Scotch Countess of Mar, and held in her right very large estates. To these may be added Sir John Copeland, who made his fortune by the ransom of David King of Scots. The King gave him £400, and an annuity of £100 a year, in order that he might serve as a Banneret (*sicut alii Banneretti*). In another part of the same grant the King states he places him "in statu Banneretti," the only instance probably of a Banneret being created by Letters Patent. For these grants, however, he was to find 20 men-at-arms for the King's service.

Portsmouth at the Quindene of Easter, prepared to take passage with the King.

A writ to the Sheriffs of London informs them that the King had assigned Andrew the Smith of the Tower (Andrew le Fever de la Tour), to select 12 smiths, with their artificers,¹ within the City of London. Dated 30th March.

A writ to William de Bohun Earl of Northampton and the other Welsh lords, prorogues the assembly of the Welsh at Portsmouth till the Quindene of Easter. Dated 20th April.

A similar writ was addressed to Edward Prince of Wales.

Writ to the Sheriffs of cos. Salop and Stafford exonerating John de Peyto, junior, from providing hobelars and archers on account of his lands and tenements in those counties, the said John serving in the King's retinue. Dated Westminster, 30th April.

Hugh le Despencer and Hugh son of Hugh le Despencer, Knight, in the King's retinue, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated 18th May.

William Trussel of Cublesdon and Rese ap Griffith in the retinue of the King, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated 28th May, from Porcestre.

John son of John Trussel of Cubleston, Richard de Sondfort, and Adam de Sharesull, in the retinue of Richard Earl of Arundel, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated Westminster, 24th May.

William de Camville, in the retinue of John fitz Wauter, had letters of protection. Dated 24th May.

A writ to Thomas de Swynnerton, Richard de Stafford, and the Sheriff of Staffordshire, states that the 160 archers ordered to be arrayed in co. Stafford had not been sent to Portsmouth at the date named, and admonishing them to send them with all celerity. Dated from Porchester, 14th June.

The following Staffordshire tenants had letters of protection, viz. :—

John Strech, in the retinue of Hugh le Despencer.

¹ Edward III.'s army, as a military machine, was probably superior to the English army which Lord Wellington commanded at the beginning of the Peninsular War. The Earl of Wellington in 1812 complained bitterly of his want of military artificers, and it was not till that year that the present corps of sappers and miners was raised. It was, no doubt, with the artificers from the Tower that Edward III. repaired the bridge at Poissy on the Seine.

Walter de Careswelle, in the retinue of Bartholomew de Burg-hersh le Pere.

William de Stretton, Richard de Stafford, Thomas de Ferrars, James son of James de Audele, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales. Dated from Porcestre 21st June.

John de Charnes and John de Bromleye, in the retinue of Thomas de Swynnerton. Dated from Porcestre 6th June.

John de Beysyn, in the retinue of Hugh de Hastynges, had letters of attorney in the names of Hugh de Mortimer, Knight, and Richard de Engelton, to last till Christmas. Dated 12th June.

Stephen de Cursoun, in the retinue of Nicholas de Longeford, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated by the King at Porcestre 20th June.

Richard Castel, in the retinue of Richard de Stafford, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated by the King at Porcestre 4th June.

Richard de Harecourt, in the retinue of Maurice de Berkele, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated from Porchester 20th June.

John Fyenles, Chivaler, about to set out abroad in the retinue of William Trussel of Cubblesdon, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated by the King at Porcestre 25th June.

FRENCH ROLL, 20 E. III., A.D. 1346. PART II.

James de Stafford, Vyvian de Staundon, James de Audeleye, John Delves, Hamon l'Estraunge, John de Bisshperton, Richard de Venables, Thomas de Betteleye, Humfrey Tromwyn, about to set out abroad in the retinue of Richard Earl of Arundel, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated by the Custos 6th July.

Robert de Ferrars, about to set out abroad in the King's service, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated by the Custos 7th July.

The following, who were in his retinue, had the same, viz. :—

John de Brimpton.	Henry de Mortimer.
William Tromwyne.	Nicholas de Marchyndon.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire to annul a distress against the prudhommes (*probi homines*) of Tamworth, for a sum of 5 marks for the expenses of an armed man, because they had sent a man to Portsmouth who had served with the King. 16th November.

Writ of protection for William Mauveisyn, a Knight of France, who had been taken prisoner by Robert Darcy, and who had the

said Robert's permission to return to France to obtain his ransom (*pro redemptione sua querendâ*). Dated by the Custos 8th November.

John de Whyston, who was abroad in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 16th November.

A writ to the Sheriff of Salop orders him to release William de Gravenore, Richard de Gravenore,¹ and four others, who had been arrested for returning to England whilst in the King's service in the retinue of William de Clynton Earl of Huntingdon, the said William and the others having a safe conduct from the said Earl. Dated by the Custos 24th November.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire to annul all demand upon Richard Frebody, who had been assessed to find an archer for the King's service for 100 solidates of land, it having been testified that the said Richard had not 6 marks of rent for the support of his family. Dated by the Custos 6th November.

Writ to the Sheriff of Kent to arrest all men-at-arms and archers, whether Knights or Squires or others, who had returned to England without permission, and to lodge them in the Tower of London, with their horses, armour, etc. Dated by the Custos 15th December.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire to annul any demand upon Edmund de Lye for a hobelar for the King's service, he having found one Thomas de Stoneleye, who had been killed at Melan whilst serving in the retinue of William de Careswell. Dated by the Custos 16th December.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire not to molest John Bagot, who had the King's permission to return to England in charge of Henry de Braillesford, a Banneret serving in the retinue of William de Clynton Earl of Huntingdon, and who was returning to England in an infirm state of health from Calais. Dated by the Custos from Wyndesore 28th November.

Writ to the Sheriffs of counties *citra* Trent to send additional archers to be at Sandwich on the Monday after the Feast of St. Lucy the Virgin.

The Sheriff of Staffordshire was ordered to send 20. (*N.B.*—

¹ Gravenore, of Claverley, co. Salop, and subsequently of Bushbury, co. Stafford. In later years they assumed the name of Grosvenor. See Note by Mr. Grazebrook at p. 159 of Dugdale's Visitation, Vol. IV., Part II., "Staffordshire Collections."

There are many other writs to send reinforcements to the King, addressed to the great lords and to mayors of towns and to the Welsh lords.)

Writ to the Sheriff of Warwickshire not to molest Giles de Erdington, who had returned to England with the King's permission owing to illness, which incapacitated him from warlike actions (*in actibus bellicosus laborare non potest*). Dated by the Custos 20th January.

William de Careswell, who was abroad in the King's service in the retinue of Bartholomew de Burghersh the father, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated by the Custos 20th December.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire to supersede any distraint against John de Kynardesleye, who had been assessed for the service of a Hobelar for his lands and tenements in the county, and which for certain causes had been changed afterwards for an archer, the said John having paid 40s. for the expenses of an archer. Dated by the Custos 20th January.

SIEGE OF CALAIS, A.D. 1346-1347.

When Edward III. arrived at Calais on the 3rd September, 1346, the military situation was curiously alike to that of the allied armies before Sebastopol in the autumn of 1854. He had been successful in the field, but after a victorious campaign in the summer, found himself confronted in the autumn by a fortress too strong to be taken by assault, and reduced to undertake a winter campaign with all its concomitant hardships, or to re-embark his army without having any appreciable result to show for his expenditure of men and money. Without hesitation he adopted the more enterprising course, and whilst his fleet blockaded the harbour, his army on the land side cut off all communication with the interior. The sufferings of his troops encamped on the marshes of Calais during the winter of 1346-47 must have been terrible, and probably far exceeded those of the allied army before Sebastopol, but being spared the reproaches of a press, and the censures of the numerous private correspondents, whose letters now embarrass a modern General—he was able to throw a veil over the hardships of his army, and no check was caused apparently to the reinforcements of men from England, who took the place of those disabled by sickness or the enemy.

EXTRACTS FROM THE NORMAN ROLL OF 20 E. III.,¹ A.D. 1346.

The King grants to Oliver de Stretton, Knight, that he should not be put on assizes, juries, etc., or be made justice, mayor, sheriff, etc., against his will. Dated near Calais 14th October.

The King remits to William Trussel of Cublesdon all claims, actions, etc., on account of his office of Receiver of the King's Household up to the date of these presents. Dated near Calais 22nd October.

The following, for their good service in the war in France, had pardons for all homicides, felonies, robberies, etc. Dated "*juxta Calesium*" 4th September:—

John de Couleye, on the testimony of Hugh le Despencer;² Vivian de Chetewynd, on the testimony of John de Grey of Rotherfeld; William Trumwyn, Chivaler; William son of Richard de Weston en le Holyes near Gnousale in co. Stafford; Richard de Puyleston; James de Stafford, Knight, of co. Leycestre; Thomas son of Henry de Kerswalle, Chivaler, on the testimony of Robert de Ferrars.

John Courson, Knight, of co. Stafford, on the testimony of Alan la Zouche; Robert de Leighton, on the testimony of the Prince of Wales.

John de Delves, Umfrey Trumwyn, James son of Nicholas D'Audele, Knight, on the testimony of the Earl of Arundel.

William Golde of Wednesbury, and Richard Dillon of Wednesbury, on the testimony of John de Grey of Rotherfeld.

Robert Henry of Stretton, on the testimony of the Prince of Wales.

John Ingot of Lichfeld, Richard son of Richard le Parker of Lichfeld, Richard de Pipe of Lichfeld; and William Messenger of Longedon, on the testimony of the Earl of Warwick.

William de Handesacre, Philip Carles, and Walter de Aston, on the testimony of the Earl of Warwick.

Robert de Chedle, and Thomas Gasteneys, Knight, on the testimony of the Earl of Warwick.

¹ This Roll is headed, "Rotulus de anno regni Regis Edwardi post conquestum Angliæ vicesimo et Franciæ septimo, videlicet a duodecimo die Julii anno predicto, quo die idem dominus Rex applicuit apud Hoges in Normannia usque finem dicti anni, dicto Rege continue existente infra regnum Franciæ."

² The man who testifies to the service is the Baron or Banneret in whose retinue the receiver of the pardon had served.

Thomas de Kerswall, son of Henry de Kerswall, Knight, of co. Stafford, on the testimony of Robert de Ferrars.

William son of Roger Purcel of Byssbebury, on the testimony of Hugh le Despencer.

Richard de Swynerton of co. Lincoln, on the testimony of Adam de Swynburne.¹

Robert Walkelein, Parson of the Church of Patyngham, on the testimony of the Earl of Warwick.

Ralph son of Philip de Chetewynde, on the testimony of Thomas de Lathum.

Geoffrey son of Henry de Hextal, on the testimony of Hugh le Despencer.

William Cresset of Halghton, co. Salop, on the testimony of Roger l'Estraunge.

William le Fisher of Tuttebury, on the testimony of William de Cantilupe.

William de Stretton, James de Thikkenes, Ralph Hardheved of Depyng, and Adam de Sheldon, on the testimony of the Prince of Wales. Dated near Calais 1st December.

Thomas de Brumpton, Knight. Dated near Calais 20th November.

Richard de Sondford,² on the testimony of John l'Estraunge.

FRENCH ROLL, 21 E. III., p. 1 (A.D. 1347).

A writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire, directs him to supersede all demands upon Thomas Meverel, for which his lands had been assessed for the King's late passage into France, the said Thomas having sent his brother Guy suitably equipped as a man-at-arms, and who had served as such until his death before Calais, as testified by Robert de Ferrars.³ Dated by the Custos from Redyng 15th February.

Thomas de Halghton, Malcolm Wasteneys, Thomas de Barynton, John de la Lee, and the Sheriff, are appointed Commissioners of Array in Staffordshire, by writ dated by the Custos 16th February.

Writs were issued to Edward Prince of Wales and the Welsh lords, to array Welshmen for the King's service; half to be armed with spears, and the rest to be archers.

¹ Adam de Swynburne was Sub-Constable of the Army.

² Mr. Sandford of Sandford, co. Salop, still retains this pardon in good preservation.

³ Thomas Meverel held Gayton under Robert de Ferrars, the lord of Chartley.

Writs to the Earl of Kildare, John de Verdoun, and five other Irish Barons, requesting them to accelerate their supplies of men-at-arms and hobelars for the King's service. Dated by the Custos 7th March. John de Verdon to supply 5 men-at-arms and 10 hobelars.

James de Pype and Ralph son of Ralph le Botiler of Northbury, in the retinue of Ralph Baron Stafford, had letters of protection dated respectively 16th and 18th March.

Writs appointing Commissioners to select archers for the King's service, to be ready by Easter. Dated 18th February.

The Commissioners for Staffordshire were James de Stafford, John de Ipestanes, Reginald de Legh, and the Sheriff, who were to select 180 archers. The total number to be arrayed was 3,680.

The following had letters of protection dated 20 March; viz., Ralph Baron of Stafford, and in his retinue:—

John Bagot.	John de Loges.
John de Stafford.	John d'Oyly.
Walter de Stafford.	John de Hynlee.
John de Hyde.	Robert de Legh.

Nicholas de Beek, in the retinue of Ralph Lord Stafford, had general letters of attorney.

The following had letters of protection:—

William son of John de Chetewynde of Shavynton, in the retinue of Roger l'Estraunge of Knokyn. Dated 10th April.

John Trumwyn, Chivaler, in the retinue of Richard Earl of Arundel. Dated 26th April.

James de Audele. Dated 17th April.

Robert son of Robert de Holand, Chivaler. Dated 4th May.

A writ to the Sheriff of Bucks orders him not to distrain William de Audele for his assessment to provide hobelars or men-at-arms, as the said William was serving in the retinue of Robert de Ferrars.

An urgent writ to Hugh le Despencer, James de Audele, Thomas de Holand, John de Verdon, Robert de Ferrars, and twenty-six others, directs them to hasten to the King with all celerity, and without waiting for their equipment of horses, the French having assembled their forces to attack him. Dated by the Custos from Redyng the 14th May.¹

Osbert de Hynkele (*serviens Regis ad arma*) had letters of protection dated 12th May.

¹ The Barons and others named in this writ had evidently lost all their horses during the winter, and had proceeded to England to obtain others.

John le Blount, Chivaler, in the retinue of Henry Earl of Lancaster, had the same dated 28th May.

A writ to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer orders them to supersede all demands upon John de Chetewynd for men-at-arms, hobelars, or archers assessed upon his land in co. Salop, the said John having been summoned to set out for Gascony in the retinue of Henry Earl of Lancaster, and being too weak and ill himself for the voyage, had sent three men-at-arms with the said Earl. Dated by the Custos at Redyng 20th June.

The following had letters of protection :—

Richard de Whyston, on the testimony of Richard de Stafford. Dated 4th June.

Richard de Stafford, who was with Edward Prince of Wales. Dated 3rd June.

John de Hastang, Chivaler, in the retinue of Henry Earl of Lancaster. Dated 4th June.

John Strech, Chivaler. Dated 5th June.

Rese ap Griffiths. Dated 8th June.

Hugh le Despencer. Dated 1st June.

Thomas de Holand. Dated 4th June.

To last till Michaelmas.

FRENCH ROLL, 21 E. III.

PART II. A.D. 1347.

A writ to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer directs them to supersede all demands on Hugh de Meignyell, who was in the retinue of Henry Earl of Lancaster in Gascony, to provide men-at-arms, hobelars, or archers on account of his lands and tenements in cos. Warwick, Leycester, Stafford, Worcester, and Berks. Dated 14th June.

William de Meignylle, Chivaler, in the retinue of Henry Earl of Lancaster, had letters of attorney dated 20th May, to last till Michaelmas.

The following had letters of protection :—

Hugh son of Hugh le Blount, Chivaler, in the retinue of Robert de Scales, had letters of protection till Michaelmas. Dated 20th June.

Fulk de Bermyngeham, Chivaler. Dated 18th June.

John Trussel of Cubblesdon. Dated 10th July.

William de Hoghton, in the retinue of Ralph Baron Stafford. Dated 16th July.

Writ to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer to supersede all demands on Fulk de Bermyngeham for men-at-arms, hobelars, or archers, the said Fulk having served in the late expedition in the retinue of Thomas Bishop of Durham, until he had obtained the King's permission to return to England, and who had also lately set out again for foreign parts. Dated by the Custos 12th June.

John de Sutton Lord of Duddeleye, who was abroad in the King's service, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated 11th July.

Writ to the Sheriff of Staffordshire to supersede any demand on Robert de Weston for an archer, for which he had been assessed for his lands and tenements in that county, the said Robert having served in the retinue of Thomas de Swynerton, and still serving in it. Dated 20th June.

Writ to the Sheriff of Norfolk to supersede all demands upon Anselm Mareschal for men-at-arms, hobelars, or archers, the said Anselm having been commissioned to guard the coast and maritime towns. Dated 13th June.

William son of John de Wellesleye, Knight, in the retinue of Maurice son of Thomas Earl of Kildare, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 14th July.

Richard de Sondford, Nicholas de Huggefurd, and Vivian de Staundon, in the retinue of John l'Estraunge of Blaunkmonster, had letters of protection till Michaelmas. Dated 12th July.

John de Oddyngeles, in the retinue of Ralph Baron Stafford, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated by the Custos from Redyng 3rd August.

William de Suyleslond, John de Melton of Barton, and Richard de Gasbryk, in the retinue of Ralph Baron Stafford, had letters of protection till Christmas. Dated 2nd September.

Writ to the Sheriff of Bedfordshire to supersede all demands on William Trussel of Cubbleston for men-at-arms, hobelars, or archers on account of his lands in the said county, the said William having served in the expedition, and still serving in it. Dated by the Custos from Worcester 14th September.

Writ to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer to supersede all demands on John de Weston for a man-at-arms, a hobelar and an archer; and on John de Mollesley for an archer; and on John de Hugford for a hobelar; and on Henry de Heghsale (Hextall) for an

archer; and on John Giffard of Chirynton for a man-at-arms, on account of their lands and tenements in co. Stafford; also on the vill of Stafford for six armed men, on the vill of Burton-upon-Trent for four armed men, they having sent to Portsmouth the above number of men-at-arms, hobelars, archers, and other men, properly equipped, and which had remained in the King's service until his return to England. Dated 16th October, by the King at Westminster.

Ralph Baron Stafford, who was abroad in the King's service, had letters of general attorney till Christmas. Dated by the Custos at Thame 6th October.

Writ to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer to supersede all demands on William de Cavereswell for men-at-arms, or hobelars, or archers on account of his lands and tenements, the said William having served personally in the expedition, Dated 19th December.

John de Chivereston, appointed Captain of the town of Calais (*Capitaneus ville Calesie*) by writ dated Westminster 1st December.

Besides the above Roll of 21 E. III. there is an extra French Roll of this year, usually known as the Calais Roll, and which is headed, "*Rotulus factus in partibus transmarinis de anno regni Regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum, videlicet Angliæ vicesimo primo et Francie octavo.*"

This Roll contains grants and charters by the King under his privy seal to Barons, Knights, and others then serving at Calais. The following notes from it refer to Staffordshire tenants.

CALAIS ROLL, 21 E. III., A.D. 1347.

By writ dated 8th August from Calais, the King for his good service grants to Thomas de Gleseleye the Bailiwick of the Forest of Kynefar, lately held by William Hort, deceased.

A general pardon for all homicides, felonies, etc., was granted to Henry son of John de Legh of co. Stafford. Dated *juxta Calesium* 8th July.

A similar pardon was granted to Roger de Somerville, on the testimony of Rese ap Griffith. Dated as above.

By writ of privy seal dated from Calais 23rd September, the Kings grants to Hugh de Wrottesleye, Knight, a charter of free warren for all his demesne lands in co. Salop (*sic*); this charter is witnessed by Edward Prince of Wales, Henry Earl of Lancaster, William de Bohun Earl of Northampton, Laurence de Hastings Earl of Pembroke, and Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick.

By another writ of the same date the King grants him a licence to make a park at Wrottesley.¹

By writ dated 8th October, the King, for the safe custody of the town, grants shops and houses to 176 Englishmen, for the service of the garrison of the town, to be held by them for their lives free of rent, and their heirs, after their decease, to render a reasonable farm; saving, however, all rents and services due from the said tenements to the Church and Hospital of St. Nicholas of Calais. By writ of the same date, John de Mont Gomery was appointed Captain of the town.

A truce was shortly afterwards concluded, and the King returned to England.

St. George's Day, 23 E. III., or the 23rd April, 1349, is the date named in the Ancient Statutes of the Garter, as the day of the inauguration of that famous Order of Knighthood. The original Companions consisted of the King, the Prince of Wales, and 24 Companions, of whom 20 only were English, the rest being Knights of Gascony or Brabant. It is noteworthy that of the 20 English Companions, 3 were Staffordshire men, viz., Ralph Lord Stafford, Sir Hugh de Wrottesley, and James Lord Audley.

WAR WITH FRANCE, A.D. 1350-1354, 24 TO 28 E. III.

Calais surrendered on the 4th August, 1347, and a truce having been concluded with the French, the King returned to England, landing at Sandwich on the 12th October following.

In 1350, the truce having expired, John, who had lately succeeded Philip de Valois as King of France, suddenly appeared before the town of St. Jean d'Angely, and took it before the arrival of the force which King Edward sent from England to relieve it. This force consisted of about 300 men-at-arms, amongst whom Froissart enumerates James d'Audley; but it was sent off to Gascony in so great a hurry that no letters of protection for any of those composing it, appear on the French or Gascon Rolls. Ralph Baron of Stafford, and John de Sutton the Baron of Dudley appear from entries on the French Roll of this year to have formed part of the relieving force.

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 24 E. III., A.D. 1350.

An urgent writ addressed to James d'Audele, John de Sutton of Duddele, and twelve other Barons, requests them to be at West-

¹ The original of this grant is at Wrottesley.

minster on the morrow of the close of Easter, to advise the King respecting the safety and defence of the Kingdom. Dated 20th March.

A writ dated 20th March directs the Sheriffs of counties to proclaim that the men-at-arms, hobelars, and archers who desired to embark with the King should be at Sandwich by the Quindene of Trinity.

A writ to all Sheriffs, Bailiffs, etc., commanding them to give assistance to Henry de Braybrok the Sergeant (*Serviens*) of Ralph Baron Stafford, who had been deputed by the said Ralph to procure victuals, lodging, etc., for himself and his men, archers and others, and likewise for their horses, at the expense of the said Ralph. Dated Westminster, 26th March.

A writ to all Mayors and Bailiffs of towns in England, commands them to provide a certain number of armed men from every town for the King's service, and to send them to Sandwich by the Quindene of Trinity, prepared to embark with the King.¹ Dated 20th March.

Lichfield was to provide 6 men; Stafford 3; Newcastle-under-Lyme 1; Burton-upon-Trent 1; Wolverhampton 2; and Pencrich 1.

A writ to all Sheriffs of counties commands them to provide bows and arrows for the King's service, and to send them to the Tower of London, and to charge the cost in the *compotus* of the county. Staffordshire was to supply 100 bows and 200 sheafs of arrows. Dated 12th September, from Westminster.

By Letters Patent dated 16th October, 1350, the King grants to Hugh de Wrottesleye, Knight, for his good service and for his attendance upon the King ("*pro morâ suâ nobiscum*"), a yearly pension of £40. (Original Letters Patent at Wrottesley.)

A.D. 1351-1354, 25 to 28 E. III.

The King issued writs again in 1351 for the assembly of an army at Sandwich, but did not embark, as negotiations for a peace were in progress before the Pope at Avignon. Desultory operations were however carried on in Brittany, under a sort of tacit agreement that the two competitors for the Duchy were to decide their quarrel by force of arms, and that each King might send assistance to his ally. In August, 1352, the French party in Brittany were completely defeated by the English at Mauron. This state of things continued until 1354, when the King withdrew his

¹ This was the regular form, whether the King went in person or not.

ambassadors, owing to the impossibility of reconciling the conflicting pretensions of the two claimants to the Duchy, neither King being prepared to abandon his ally.

Sir James de Pype, a Staffordshire Knight, and half brother of Ralph Earl of Stafford, was Seneschal of Gascony in 27 E. III., and continued in office till the 20th March, 1354:

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 25 E. III.

A writ dated 15th June, 1351, appoints Commissioners in all the English counties to array archers for the King's service, to be ready to embark with the King by the Feast of St. James. The Commissioners for co. Stafford were James de Pipe, John de Verdon, William Walkelate, the King's Serjeant, and the Sheriff, who were to array 250. The total number to be arrayed was 4,140.

On the same date the usual writ was issued to the great Welsh lords to array Welshmen for the King's service, to be armed with lances and other suitable arms, and to be ready by the same date. On this occasion they were not required apparently to find any archers.

A Retinue Roll of the Earl of Huntingdon, dated from Calais, 11th June, 25 E. III., shows that William de Chetewynde and William de Draycote were serving under him as men-at-arms at that date. (Army Miscellanea, Exchequer.)

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 26 E. III.

A writ dated 24th May appoints Commissioners in every county to array archers. The Commissioners for co. Stafford were John de Sutton of Duddele, Humfrey de Swynnerton, and Philip de Lettele (Lutley), who were to select 250, to be ready by the Quindene of Trinity. The total number to be arrayed was 4,200.

By writ dated from Westminster, 6th February, the King granted to Sir Robert Knolles, for his good service in Brittany, the custody of the Castle of Fougères, so long as the war should last.

A Retinue Roll of Ralph Earl of Stafford, amongst the Army Miscellanea of the Exchequer, shows that he was in Gascony this year with a retinue of 4 Bannerets, 25 Knights, 114 Esquires, and 234 archers on horseback, but it contains no names.

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 28 E. III.

The King for the good service performed by his beloved Sergeant-at-arms John Gruynard, the superintendent of his engines and springalls in Calais, grants to him an annual pension of 100s.

for his life. Dated Westminster, 30th January. John Gruynard, who appears to have been the King's engineer-in-chief, is styled "*Supervisor operationum ingeniorum et springaldorum nostrorum in villâ nostrâ Calesie.*"

A mandate to Thomas de Holand, Captain and *locum tenens* to the King in the Duchy of Brittany, directs him to proclaim the truce between the two countries. Dated 6th April.

A writ on the Close Roll of 29 E. III. shows that Hugh de Wrottesley was taken prisoner in Brittany early in this year.¹

WAR WITH FRANCE, A.D. 1355-1356, 29 AND 30 E. III.

The war between the two countries was renewed in 1355. King Edward marched from Calais in November at the head of a large force, and penetrated as far as Amiens; but the French avoided an engagement, and the lateness of the season and the want of provisions obliged him at length to return to Calais. On his arrival there he received information that the Scots had surprised Berwick and invaded the northern counties of England. He immediately set out for London, and issued writs to the Sheriffs of the Midland Counties to send all the men-at-arms and archers of those counties to Newcastle-on-Tyne. Berwick was recovered by Sir Walter Mauny before the arrival of the King, and from this place King Edward marched through the Lothians, reducing to ashes every town, village, or house. Edinburgh only was spared at the intercession of the Lady Douglas, "*une moult noble, frisque et gentille dame,*" as she is described by Froissart, who sent to King Edward a present of French wine from Dalkeith, and afterwards came to his camp and personally interceded for it. On the King's return towards England the Earl Douglas, with a small force, hovered on his rear, and was able to cut off some of the stragglers of the English army, amongst whom, according to

¹ This writ annuls an outlawry of Sir Hugh on the ground that at the time it was promulgated he was a prisoner of the King's enemy, the King of France. Sir Hugh had been prosecuted *coram Rege* for the death of Philip de Luttaley, the Sub-sheriff and Coroner of the county, who had been waylaid and killed with some of his attendants on Dunston Heath, near Stafford, in 1352. Considerable license was allowed to King Edward's companions-in-arms, but this outrage was deemed too strong, and he was imprisoned in the Marshalsea and prosecuted for it with great rigour in the Court of King's Bench. From the Marshalsea he managed to escape on the 31st October, 1353, and was subsequently outlawed. (*Coram Rege* Rolls, 27 E. III.)

Froissart, were "plusieurs bons chevaliers d'Angleterre et de Brabant." It was probably at this time that Sir Thomas de Swynerton was taken prisoner (*see* p. 98). The havoc caused by this expedition was long known by the Scots as the Burnt Candlemas.

FRENCH ROLL, 29 E. III., A.D. 1355.

A writ dated 22nd May from Westminster, and addressed to all Sheriffs of counties, directs them to give every facility to John Gruynard, the King's Sergeant-at-arms and Master of his engines in the vill of Calais (*Magistrum ingeniorum nostrorum in villa nostrâ Calesie*), who was ordered to select carpenters for engineers' work, and carriages and harness for the King's engines, as well as timber for the engines, and to convey them to Calais.

The following had letters of protection :—

Edmund Giffard, Chivaler ;¹ William de Leyghton, John de Ferrers, Chivaler, Nicholas de Morehalle, and others, in the retinue of Ralph Earl of Stafford. Dated 3rd July.

Thomas de Arderne, Chivaler,* in the retinue of Walter de Mauny. Dated 3rd July.

Thomas de Swynnerton. Dated 26th June.

John Beissyn and Nicholas Burnel, Knight, and William Trumwyn, in the retinue of Thomas de Swynnerton. Dated 28th June.

Thomas D'Ufford, Chivaler ; Roger l'Estraunge, Chivaler ; John de Perton, Chivaler ; and William son and heir of William de Overton, in the retinue of Henry Earl of Lancaster. Dated 2nd July.

John Beisin had letters of attorney. Dated 20th June.

Humfrey Trumwyn, Knight, in the retinue of Roger de Mortimer Earl of March. Dated 28th June.

James de Pype, in the retinue of Ralph Earl of Stafford. Dated 6th July.

Walter de Bermingham, in the retinue of Henry Earl of Lancaster. Dated Westminster, 5th July.

Robert de Holand, Knight, in the retinue of Thomas de Holand. Dated 20th July.

Otto de Holand in the same retinue. Dated 20th August.

Thomas de Holand and Joan his wife, sister and heir of John

¹ Edmund Giffard Lord of Chillington.

* Thomas de Arderne was Lord of Elford, where there is a very fine recumbent effigy of him in armour in the church.

formerly Earl of Kent, who were in Brittany in the King's service had letters of general attorney. Dated Winchester, 18th August.

William de Caumville, in the retinue of John fitz Wauter, had letters of protection. Dated 2nd October.

Thomas de Passele, Chivaler; and John de Langeton, Knight, in the retinue of Ralph Earl of Stafford, had the same. Dated 15th October from Westminster.

John de Somerville and John de Ferrars, in the same retinue, had letters of protection. Dated 16th October.

SCOTCH ROLL, 29 E. III., A.D. 1355.

Humfrey Trumwyn, Chivaler, about to set out for Scotland in the retinue of Roger de Mortimer Earl of March, had letters of protection till the Purification. Dated from Westminster 1st December.

A writ dated from Westminster 18th December orders the Sheriff of Staffordshire to array 100 mounted archers to proceed with the King against the Scots, who had treacherously seized Berewick-on-Tweed. Similar writs were sent to the Sheriffs of cos. Notts and Derby, and to the Prince of Wales as Earl of Chester. Another writ to the Duke of Lancaster directs him to provide 200 mounted archers for the same service.

Writs to the Sheriffs of cos. Notts, Derby, Lincoln, Leycester, Stafford, Northampton, Salop, and Warwick, commanding them to proclaim that all men-at-arms and archers of those counties between the ages of sixteen and sixty, were to repair at once to Newcastle-on-Tyne, prepared with horses and arms to proceed with the King against the Scots, who were congregated on the marches in great numbers, with the intention of invading the kingdom. Dated from Durham 23rd December.¹

SCOTCH ROLL, 30 E. III., A.D. 1356.

The King, at the supplication of Thomas de Swynnerton, grants letters of safe conduct to Thomas Gilbertsone, Adam Davisone, and 19 other Scotch prisoners belonging to Thomas, to proceed to Scotland for the purpose of procuring their ransoms. To last till the Purification. Dated from Westminster 6th December (1356).

Amongst the issues from the Pell of 31 E. III., there is one of

¹ It will be noted the King had only occupied five days in journeying from London to Durham, for on the 18th he was at Westminster.

£100 ordered by the King to be paid for the ransom of Sir Thomas de Swynnerton, taken prisoner in the war in Scotland.

WAR IN GASCONY, 1355-1356, 29 AND 30 E. III.

When the war was renewed between France and England, it had been arranged that Edward the Black Prince should operate on the side of Gascony simultaneously with the advance of Edward III. from Calais. From the walls of Bordeaux Prince Edward advanced to the foot of the Pyrenees, plundering and ravaging a wide tract of country, the enemy retiring on his approach. He is stated in the course of this expedition to have burnt upwards of 500 towns and villages. Froissart, whose admiration of the English was unbounded, calls this plundering expedition "*une grande et belle chevauchée*."

The following year was signalized by the famous victory of Poitiers, which was fought on the 19th September, 1356. Prince Edward, after ravaging the provinces of Limousin, Auvergne, and Berri, had advanced so far into a hostile country that he was intercepted on his return by one of the most numerous and brilliant armies which France had ever set on foot. The French King had under his command, according to Sismondi, twenty-six of the great feudatories of the kingdom bearing the title of Duke or Count, 140 lords having the right to display a banner, and nearly 50,000 combatants, of whom 8,000 were Knights or Esquires in full armour. Four sons of the King were also with him in the army. Edward the Black Prince, on the other hand, had under his command only 2,000 men-at-arms, 4,000 archers, and about 2,000 lightly armed infantry. The position of the Black Prince was a desperate one if the French King had been able to restrain the impetuosity of his own troops; but he was saved by the over-confidence of the enemy, and the great military talents of Sir John Chandos, who drew up his small force on exceedingly strong ground, where the French could only make the attack on a very narrow front. Besides the French King and his son Philip who were taken prisoners, the French lost in this battle the Constable of France and two other Dukes, 90 Bannerets, and more than 2,400 Knights and men-at-arms who were killed. Amongst the prisoners were thirteen Counts, five Viscounts, and 16 Bannerets.

The Staffordshire Barons or Bannerets mentioned by Froissart as being present at this battle were Edward le Despencer, James d'Audley, Sir Richard de Stafford, and le Seigneur de Basset

(Ralph Basset de Drayton). He describes James Lord Audley and his four Squires as having fought in the front of the army, and performed prodigies of valour: "trop en sus de tous les autres, et faisait merveilles d'armes." Two of these Esquires, Dutton and Delves, were Staffordshire men.

VASCON ROLL, 29 E. III., A.D. 1355.

The following Staffordshire tenants in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales had letters of protection till the Easter following, dated by the King at Westminster 12th June:—

Thomas de Arderne.	Nicholas de Stafford.
John de Whiston.	James de Audeley, Chivaler.
Richard de Stafford.	Richard de Dokeseye.
Ralph Basset of Drayton.	

Fulk de Burmyngham, Chivaler, in the retinue of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, had letters of protection dated 18th June.

Ralph Basset of Drayton, about to set out for Gascony with Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of attorney to last till Easter next. Dated 10th June.

VASCON ROLL, 30 E. III., A.D. 1356.

Richard de Stafford, Chivaler, Thomas de Arderne, Chivaler and Nicholas de Stafford, Chivaler, who are in Gascony with Edward Prince of Wales, have letters of protection till Christmas. Dated 15th March.

Thomas de Arderne, Chivaler, who was in Gascony with Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of attorney in the names of Hugh de Hopewas, Clerk, and Henry de Tymmor, Clerk.

Edward le Despencer, Chivaler, who was in Gascony in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of protection till Easter next. Dated 6th October.

The writs of protection on the French and Gascon Rolls at the dates of the principal expeditions of the King and Prince into France, are so few and scanty that it is probable that they were enrolled on these occasions on separate Protection Rolls, similar to the *Rotuli de protectionibus* of the reign of Edward I. and Henry V., and that these Protection Rolls have been lost.

At the same time I am inclined to think that the force of English at Poitiers was comparatively small, for no writs to array men for Gascony appear on the Vascon Rolls of 29 and 30 E. III.,

and King Edward had levied a large force for operations in the north of France. The Gascons too evidently considered the King of France as *their* prisoner, for they refused to allow him to be taken to England until they had been paid a large sum of money.

Amongst the Army Miscellanea of the Exchequer of 30 E. III. is a Roll containing the names of the English garrisons of Calais and Guynes under the command of Ralph de Ferrers. Amongst the men-at-arms were Robert de Stafford and Hugh de Swynnerton. There were also in the fortress various artificers such as carpenters and smiths, and springald-men, and others who are styled *artillarii*.

It is clear from this record, and that of the disbursements on account of the army before Calais in 1346-47, which will be found in the Appendix, that Edward III. possessed cannon at Creci, as stated by Villani, the Italian historian.

Amongst the Wardrobe Accounts of the Prince of Wales of about this date, is an issue to Monsieur Hugh de Wrotteslee of a pair of plates covered with black velvet.¹ (*1 peir plates coverts de noir velvet.*)

OPERATIONS IN BRITTANY, A.D. 1356-1357.

Whilst Edward the Black Prince was operating in Guienne, and the King in the north of France, Henry the Duke of Lancaster had been sent to Brittany to the aid of the Countess of Montfort. In October, 1356, he invested Rennes, but was unable to take it; and in the following April he was directed to raise the siege, in consequence of the truce.

EXTRACTS FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 30 E. III., A.D. 1356.

William de Meignill, Chivaler, Nicholas de Ry, Chivaler, Alured de Sulny, Chivaler, John Vernon, Chivaler, Theobald Trussel, Chivaler, and others in the retinue of Henry Duke of Lancaster in Brittany, had letters of protection till Michaelmas. Dated 5th May.

Nicholas de Longeford, Chivaler, Edmund de Everingham, Chivaler, James de Pye, Chivaler, Hugh Wasteney, Thomas Cheyney, and others, who were in Brittany in the retinue of Henry

¹ The account, which is printed by Belz in his "Memorials of the Garter," commences in 1355, and ends with the year 1359; the dates of the separate issues are not given. It would appear from the above entry that the Black Prince was named after the colour of his armour and not from his complexion. A pair of plates would be the breast plate and back plate.

Duke of Lancaster, had letters of protection till Michaelmas. Dated 20th May.

Commissioners were appointed to select archers in all the English counties *citra* Trent: Staffordshire to provide 100 archers, to be arrayed by John de Stafford, John de Verdon, Robert de Aston, and the Sheriff. Dated 20th July, from Westminster.

Writs to all the great lords of North and South Wales to array Welshmen for the King's service, who were to be ready when summoned, to pass into France with the King. Dated from Westminster 20th July.

The following who were abroad in the retinue of Henry Duke of Lancaster, had letters of protection till the Feast of St. John the Baptist.

Thomas son of Robert Tuchet of Lanton.

James de Pype, Knight.

Theobald Trussel, Chivaler, and others.

Nicholas de Longeford, Knight, junior, who was in the retinue of Henry Duke of Lancaster in Brittany, had letters of protection till Michaelmas. Dated by the King at Westminster 4th November.

WAR WITH FRANCE, 33 AND 34 E. III., A.D. 1359-1360,

Hostilities broke out again between the French and English in the autumn of 1359. The King sailed from Sandwich with 1,100 ships, which are said to have conveyed the most numerous and best appointed army which England had hitherto assembled.¹ From Calais the King marched to Rheims, but owing to the lateness of the season he was unable to take that place, and after seven weeks' investment he raised the siege and occupied the Duchy of Burgundy. In the following spring he advanced to the walls of Paris, and burnt the suburbs; but the Dauphin refused all his proposals for peace, and he broke up his camp and marched towards Brittany. In the neighbourhood of Chartres his army was overtaken by one of the most fearful tempests recorded in history, and according to Knighton 6,000 horses were killed by cold, exposure, and the hail and lightning. The King, in a fit of remorse, vowed that he would refuse no proposals of peace which were compatible with his honour, and on the 8th May peace was signed at Bretigni.

¹ According to Froissart he had 8,000 wagons, each drawn by four horses, and a complete pontoon equipment of boats covered with leather (*cuir boullu*).

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 33 E. III., A.D. 1359.

PART I.

Writs were issued to Commissioners of Array in all counties *citra* Trent to select mounted archers, of the best and strongest in their counties, clothed uniformly, and to be armed with bows and arrows and daggers and other suitable arms, and who were to be at Sandwich on the Quindene of the Assumption. Dated 4th August.

The numbers to be arrayed varied from 10 in Rutlandshire to 70 in co. Lincoln. The number to be provided by Staffordshire was 40.

John de Stafford, John de Swynnerton, and the Sheriff of Staffordshire to be Commissioners of Array in co. Stafford, and the archers were to be led by John de Swynnerton.

The following, in the suite of Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of protection, dated 8th August:—

Ralph Giffard; Roger d'Audele, Chivaler; Richard de Stafford, Chivaler; James d'Audelegh, Chivaler; Rese ap Griffith had letters of general attorney under the names of Joan ap Griffith and Magister John de Somerville, dated 10th September.

William son of John de Chetewynde of Shaynton, in the retinue of Thomas de Roos of Hamelak, had letters of general attorney, dated 2nd September.

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 33 E. III., A.D. 1359.

PART II.

John Beyshyn, in the retinue of Thomas de Swynnerton, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 8th October.

The following, in the suite of the King, had letters of protection till Easter, viz., John de Mokleston. Dated 8th October.

William de Overton, Knight; Leo de Perton, *Panetarius Regis*; Edward le Despencer, Chivaler; Ralph Basset of Drayton, Thomas de Swynnerton, Chivaler; Thomas de Staundon, John de Sutton, Chivaler, in the retinue of William de Bohun Earl of Northampton. Dated Sandwich, 12th October.

Thomas de Swynnerton, Chivaler, had letters of attorney in the names of John de Swynnerton of Hulton and Richard de Jonestone. Dated Sandwich, 25th September.

The following, in the retinue of Henry Duke of Lancaster, had letters of protection to last till Easter:—

Nicholas de Longeford, Chivaler; Walter de Bermyngeham,

Chivaler; Henry de Pipe, and William de Ferrars. Dated 6th September.

Richard de Vernon, Chivaler, in the retinue of Ralph Basset, Knight. Dated 13th October.

The following, in the retinue of Ralph Earl of Stafford, had letters of protection till Easter; dated 28th August:—

John de Peyto, junior; Humfrey de Stafford, Nicholas de Beek, Chivaler; Roger de Aston; dated from Sandwich 28th October.

Roger Hillary, Chivaler. Dated 3rd September.

Walter de Verney. Dated Sandwich, 20th October.

The following had letters of protection till Easter:—

Fulk de Bermyngeham, in the suite of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick. Dated 12th September.

William le Spencer, Chivaler; Thomas de Ardene, Robert Corbet, Roger Trumwyn, and John de Rolleston, in the suite of Richard de Stafford. Dated 20th August.

The following, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of protection till Easter, dated 20th August:—

Hugh de Stafford, Hugh le Despencer, Thomas le Despencer, Knight; Rese ap Griffith, William Trussel, Knight; William son and heir of John Trussel of Cublesdon, Knight. Dated 20th October.

Nicholas de Audele, Knight, and John de Heveningham Knight, in the retinue of Roger de Mortimer Earl of March, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 20th August.

Edward le Botiller of Norbury, in the retinue of Roger l'Estraunge, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 4th September.

A note says the King crossed to France with his army on the 28th October.

John de Ferrars, who was abroad in the King's service, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 8th November, by the Custos.

Nicholas de Seymore, Chivaler, who was abroad in the retinue of Thomas de Holand, had letters of attorney for a year. Dated 8th November, by the Custos.

Ralph Earl of Stafford, who was in the King's service, had letters of protection till Easter. Dated 20th January.

FRENCH ROLL, 34 E. III., A.D. 1360.

John de Wasteneys of co. Lincoln, who was in the King's service in Normandy, in the retinue of Thomas de Holand, had

letters of protection till the Feast of St. John the Baptist. Dated 5th October.

Philip de Chetewynde, who was of the retinue of Ralph de Ferrars, Captain of Calais, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 6th July.

Peace was notified by the King in a proclamation dated from Calais 24th October.

IRISH REBELLION, A.D. 1361-1364, 35-38 E. III.

In this year Lionel the King's son, who was Earl of Ulster in right of his wife, was appointed Lieutenant of Ireland. The Irish were in rebellion, and the Prince was accompanied by a body of men-at-arms from England, under the command of Ralph Earl of Stafford, Eustace d'Abricourt, and other leaders. The retinue of the Earl upon this occasion has been preserved amongst the Army Miscellanea of the Exchequer. It comprised 1 Banneret, Le Sieur de Roos; 18 Knights, amongst whom were—

Hugh de Stafford,	Nicholas Beek,
Robert de Stafford,	John de Peyto,
William Bakepuz,	John de Sudlee,
John de Odyngselles,	John Talbot, and
John de Bromwyche,	William de Morteyn;
Robert de Grendon,	

And 78 Esquires, amongst whom were:—

Walter de Verney.	John Dunheved.
John Burnell.	Owen de Wolaston.
William de Chetwynd.	Roger de Pulesdon.
Humfrey de Stafford.	William de Duffeld.
Henry de Morehalle.	Roger Botiller.
William Barbour.	John de Shukburgh.
William de Wykford.	John de Hondesacre
John de Chetwynd.	Thomas de Allerwas
Thomas de Peyton.	Robert de Verney.
Thomas de Weston.	John de Weston.
Robert Sautcheverel.	Owen de Pulesdon.
Henry de Chetwynde.	Nicholas de Stafford
William Hamsterle.	

In the third quarter of the year, over which the account extends, and commencing 2nd February, 36 E. III., the name of Simon de Hondesacre is substituted for John de Hundesacre.

The retinue likewise comprised 100 mounted archers, amongst whom were:—

John Sherard.	Adam Fernyhalogh.
James Arblaster.	Stephen Meignill.
Roger de Torynton.	Richard Mareschall.
John de Cotes.	Henry de Denston.
William de Hampsterley.	Richard de Verney.
Ralph Whitmore.	

The above were archers of the retinue who accompanied the men-at-arms.

Besides these there are separate lists of archers on horseback and on foot for the counties of Worcester, Salop, Notts, Derby, and Gloucester, who are arrayed under the counties, and appear to have been collected by the Sheriffs or Commissioners of Array; likewise Welshmen from Newport, Glanmorgan, Breghnok, and Gower, whose names cover the back of a long roll of parchment.

There was also in his retinue Dominus Richard de Stafford, *Clericus*, who was probably the Earl's Chaplain.

There is also amongst the Army Miscellanea of the Exchequer the appraisement made by the King's officers of the horses belonging to Ralph Earl of Stafford and his men-at-arms, from which I have taken the following extracts which relate to Staffordshire men:—

Fait à remembrer des chivals prizez à Bristowe (Bristol) le xvij. joi d'August, l'an xxxv. pur le Counte de Stafforde et autres de sa retinue en la presence de Sire Wauter de Dalby Clerc, et Richard de Imworth, Sergeant d'armes nostre Seigneur le Roy.

Primerement pur le corp du dit Counte une distrere morel ove une estoile en la frount ps 80 marcs.

Item pur le Corps du dit Count une Trotter noir pomlee appelle morell de Cauz ps xx*li*.

Item pur le banere du dit Counte une Lyart de Durbache ps xx marcs.

Item pur Mons. Hugh de Stafford une chival blanc ferrant morteyne ove une suigne d'une croys sur l'espaule ps xx*li*.

Item pur John Sewale son Esquier une chival sore ove une estoile blank à la frount ps xii marcs.

Item pur Mons. Robert de Grindon une chival gris neire ove une pee senestre blank devaunt ps xx marcs.

Item pur John Handesacre son fitz (*sic*) une chival dun ove une pié blanc ps x*li*.

Item pur Mons. Richard de Stafford, Clerk, une chival lyart de mousterle ps xx marcs.

Item pur William Chetewynde une chival lyart de cauci pilee ps xiii*l*.

Item pur William Hamesterley (Hammersley) une chival bayard noir ove une estoile blank en le frount ps viiii*l*.

The retinue of Lionel Duke of Clarence and Earl of Ulton consisted of 5 Knights and 64 Esquires and 70 mounted archers. Amongst the Esquires were John Pullesdon, John de Mountford, Thomas de Asteleye, and William de Sharesull. Men of good birth appear also to have served as mounted archers, for amongst these were John Strangeways, Hugh de Bulkeley, Roger Dymmok, Henry de Verdon, Richard Corbet, William de Clinton, and Michael Talbot.¹

The retinue of Ralph de Ferrars, Banneret, consisted of 4 Knights, amongst whom were Sir Thomas Harcourt and Sir Thomas Verdon, and 15 Esquires; amongst whom were Philip de Chetewynd and William de Ferrers, and 20 archers.²

The retinue of Mons. John de Carew, Banneret, consisted of 1 Knight, 8 Esquires, and 10 archers.

It will be noted that in all these retinues the number of mounted archers exactly corresponded with that of the number of men-at-arms, and the rule appears to have been that every man-at-arms brought into the field one archer on horseback; but some brought many more; thus—

The retinue of William de Wyndesore, Banneret, consisted of 3 Knights, 49 Esquires, and 59 archers, or a surplus of 6 archers.

The retinue of Thomas de Hoggeshawe, Banneret, consisted of 3 Knights, 30 Esquires, and 38 archers, or a surplus of 4 archers.

The retinue of Eustace d'Abrugecourt, Banneret, consisted of

¹ The body guard of royal personages appears to have always consisted of men of good birth, who were equipped as mounted archers, similar to the Scottish archers of the French kings during the Middle Ages. These would wear of course the royal colours. The existing body of Scottish archers, or Royal Body Guard of Queen Victoria, is an interesting survival of these ancient body guards, and it is to be regretted that it has been thought appropriate to clothe them in suits of *Lincoln green*, as if there was some connection between them and the woodland heroes of Robin Hood.

² This Retinue Roll is dated from 14th August, 34 E. III., to 14th March, 38 E. III., and probably contains the retinue of Ralph de Ferrars at Calais during those dates. (See under French Roll of 34 E. III.)

1 Knight (Sir John de Tycheburne), 40 Esquires, and 79 archers, or a surplus of 37 archers.

Ralph de Stafford is styled *Capitaneus*, and appears to have been in command of the forces employed.

VASCON ROLL 36 E. III. A.D. 1362. PART 1.

The King conferred the Stewardship of Gascony on John de Chevereston by writ dated 8th June.

A writ of the same date orders Richard de Stafford or his *locum tenens* to hand the Stewardship over to the said John.

VASCON ROLL, 36 E. III. PART 2.

The King confers the Principality of Aquitaine on Edward Prince of Wales by Letters Patent dated from his palace at Westminster 19th July, 1362, in the 36th year of his reign.

Thomas Wasteneys, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales, about to set out for Gascony, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 6th August.

The following, about to set out for Gascony in the retinue of Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 29th September:—

John de Chaddesdene.	Richard de Stafford of Clifton,
Simon Basset.	Chivaler.
Humfrey de Stafford.	James de Audele, Chivaler.
Richard de Shelton.	Robert de Stafford, Chivaler.
Nicholas de Gresleye.	Richard de Stafford le fitz,
William son of John Trussel	Chivaler.
of Cublesdon.	

The following, about to set out with Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales for Gascony, had letters of general attorney available for a year. Dated 29th September.

Richard de Doxeie, in the names of Richard Fifide and Hugh Lambyn.

James de Audele had letters of attorney in the names of John de Delves and William de Audele. Dated 1st October.

Richard de Stafford of Clyfton, senior, had letters of general attorney in the names of Hugh de Hopewas and John Delves. Dated 18th October.

William Trussel of Cublesdon, Chivaler, had letters of attorney in the names of John de Wolaston and Philip de Drayton (*sic*, Draycote). Dated 20th November.

WAR IN SPAIN, 40-41 E. III., A.D. 1366-1367.

Shortly after the peace of Bretigni, King Edward had united all his French dominions south of the Loire into one Principality, which had been bestowed on Edward the Black Prince, with the title of Duke of Aquitaine. In the year 1366 the Prince, with the permission of King Edward, espoused the cause of Pedro the Cruel, the ex-King of Castile, who had been driven from his throne by Henry de Transtamare his illegitimate brother. The Prince crossed the Pyrenees in the middle of the winter, and on the 3rd April, 1367, fought the bloody and decisive battle of Najara, which re-established Don Pedro on the throne.

NOTES FROM THE VASCON ROLL OF 40 E. III., A.D. 1366.

Richard de Stafford junior, Chivaler, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of attorney for a year. Dated 10th July.

Writs were issued, dated 30th July, to the Sheriffs of the following counties to array archers for the Prince of Wales, who were to be ready to embark by the Nativity of the Blessed Mary (8th September):—

Notts and Derby	..	..	to provide	100
Leycester	..	..	"	50
Northampton	..	..	"	50
Warwick	..	..	"	50
Rutland..	..	..	"	20
Lincoln ..	..	..	"	50
Bedford and Bucks	..	..	"	80
Cambridge and Hunts..	..	..	"	60
Essex ..	..	..	"	50
Hereford	..	..	"	30
Oxford and Berks	..	..	"	100
London and Middlesex	..	..	"	100
Gloucester	..	..	"	100
Worcester	..	..	"	50
Wyltes ..	..	..	"	50

Ralph Basset of Drayton, Knight, who was in Aquitaine in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 6th August.

A Writ dated 16th September, addressed to the Sheriffs of Lancaster, Staffordshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, and North-

umberland, directs them to array in each of those counties 100 archers to accompany John Duke of Lancaster to Gascony, to be paid by the said Duke, and to be the most expert and strongest archers in their bailiwicks.

Humfrey de Stafford, Henry de Morhalle, and Hugh de Stafford Knights, who were in Aquitaine in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 15th October.

Nicholas de Langeford, Knight, John de Rocheford, Knight, and John de Ferrars, Knight, about to set out for Aquitaine in the retinue of John Duke of Lancaster, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 2nd November.

John de Ferrars of Charteleye, Chivaler, who was about to set out abroad in the King's service, had letters of attorney for a year. Dated 1st January.

VASCON ROLL, 41 E. III, A.D. 1367.

Thomas de Ardene, Chivaler, who was in Gascony in the retinue of Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales, had letters of protection for a year. Dated from Westminster 13th February.

RENEWAL OF WAR WITH FRANCE, A.D. 1369-1370, 43 and 44 E. III.

Edward the Black Prince had involved himself so deeply in debt by his Castilian campaign, and by the failure of Don Pedro to keep his engagements, that he was forced to impose a "*fouage*" or hearth-tax on his Gascon subjects. A portion of the Gascon nobility refused to pay the tax, and appealed to the French King. In 1369 the Black Prince was summoned to Paris to answer the complaints of his Gascon subjects. He imprisoned the messengers, and replied that he would obey the summons at the head of an army.¹ On the 3rd June Edward III. resumed the title of King of France which he had renounced by the treaty of Bretigni, and prepared for war.

His son John of Gaunt, the Duke of Lancaster, was sent to Calais at the head of an army, which pillaged the neighbouring country; but the French, acting under instructions from Charles V., refused to hazard an engagement. The great Chandos who had been

¹ As Aquitaine had been ceded to the English Crown in full sovereignty by the peace of Bretigni, the summons was unlawful and insulting.

appointed Seneschal of Poitou in place of James d'Audley,¹ was killed this year in a skirmish near Lussac on the Vienne.

Early in 1370 the French entered Gascony and occupied Limoges, a fortified town which had been surrendered to them by the inhabitants. The Black Prince retook it after a siege, and is said by Froissart to have put all the inhabitants to death, giving quarter only to the French garrison.

NOTES FROM THE VASCON ROLL OF 43 E. III., A.D. 1369.

Thomas son of John de Sutton of Duddeley, had letters of attorney for a year. Dated 6th February.

Robert de Swynnerton, who with the King's permission was in Aquitaine with Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales, had letters of attorney for a year. Dated 4th February.

The following had letters of protection to last for a year, viz. :—

William Wasteney, Knight in the retinue of Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales. Dated 12th February.

Simon Handsacre and Richard Ruggelee, in the retinue of John de Hastynges Earl of Pembroke. Dated 12th February and 29th January.

Richard de Vernoun, Knight, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales. Dated 27th February.

Thomas de Marchyngton, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales. Dated 2nd February.

Nicholas Grisele (Gresley), Knight, in the retinue of Edmund Earl of Cambridge. Dated 2nd February.

John de Mokeleston, Giles atte Hide,² Henry d'Oyly, and William Wynnesbury, in the retinue of John de Cherleton Lord of Powis. Dated 8th February.

Fulk de Pembrugge, Chivaler, about to set out for Aquitaine, had letters of protection dated 12th April.

John de Cressewell, Armiger, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 6th March.

¹ James d'Audley died of disease, and was buried at Poitiers. Froissart says he was greatly lamented by all the Barons of Poitou, "car il fut sage chevalier et vaillant homme d'armes durement, et fut celui qui fut le premier assailant à la bataille de Poitiers, ou le Roi Jean fut pris, et fut tenu pour le plus preux et vaillant homme d'armes pour la journée, de la partie des Anglois."

² Tenant of the Hyde at Chillington.

Humfrey de Stafford, Chivaler, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 22nd April.

Nicholas de Stafford, Chivaler, had letters of attorney in the names of John de Fernyhalwe and Richard Grendon, Chaplain, to last for a year. Dated 8th May.

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 43 E. III., A.D. 1369.

Ralph de Ferrers, Knight, had letters of protection till Michaelmas. Dated 12th May.

The following, who were of the retinue of Humfrey de Bohun, Earl of Hereford, had letters of protection for a year:—

Walter Devereus.

Richard de Sutton, Knight.

John de Sutton, junior, Knight. Dated 8th May.

William son of John de Walton. Dated 3rd June.

Robert son of Robert de Standon. Dated 3rd June.

John de Grendon.

William de Ferrers, Knight. Dated 13th June.

William de Chetewynd, Knight, in the retinue of John Duke of Lancaster, had letters of attorney for a year. Dated 18th June.

Robert de Staunton, Knight, in the retinue of John Duke of Lancaster, had letters of attorney in the names of Thomas de Sutton and Roger de Greseley. Dated 13th June.

The following, who were in the retinue of John Duke of Lancaster had letters of protection for a year:—

Philip de Grendon, Knight. Dated 11th June.

John de Aston of Stafford had letters of protection for a year. Dated 28th June.

William de Leyghton, in the retinue of Humfrey de Bohun Earl of Hereford, had letters of attorney dated 26th June.

John Wasteneys, in the retinue of John Duke of Lancaster, had letters of attorney in the names of Hardolph Wasteneys and William Lyvet. Dated 28th June.

John de Wolaston had letters of attorney dated 5th July.

William de Tildeslegh the same, dated 12th June.

Roger Illary, Knight, in the retinue of John Duke of Lancaster, had letters of attorney dated 11th June.

John de Sutton of Duddele, Knight, had letters of attorney for a year. Dated 12th June.

The following had letters of protection :—

John le Boteler of Werington, Knight, in the retinue of John Duke of Lancaster. Dated 27th June.

Edward le Botiller, Knight. Dated 6th September.

Thomas son of Thomas de Hodynet, cousin and heir of Richard Hodynet, who was abroad in the service of the King, in the retinue of Roger l'Estraunge. Dated 10th October.

Ralph Basset of Sapecote, Knight, who was abroad in the retinue of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick. Dated 10th October.

Nicholas de Langford, Chivaler, in the suite of John Duke of Lancaster. Dated 11th June.

Ralph Basset of Drayton, who was abroad in the King's service, had letters of attorney for a year. Dated 20th October.

Edward le Despencer, Chivaler, had letters of protection for a year. Dated Westminster, 28th November.

NOTES FROM THE VASCON ROLL OF 44 E. III., A.D. 1370.

The following, who were in Aquitaine with Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales, had letters of protection dated 8th May :—

Thomas Blount, Knight. John de la Pole, Knight.

Thomas de Arderne, Knight. Rese ap Griffyth, Knight.

Nicholas de Stafford, Knight. John de Wolseleye, Armiger.

Richard de Vernoun, Knight, in Aquitaine, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales, had letters of protection dated 3rd May.

Thomas de Kynwardesle, in the retinue of Walter Huwet, had letters of attorney for a year dated 12th June.

The following, who were in the retinue of John Duke of Lancaster, had letters of protection :—

William de Chetewynde, Knight. Dated 8th June.

Nicholas de Langford, Knight. Dated 7th June.

Philip de Okover. Dated 18th June.

John le Boteler of Werington. Dated 7th June.

John de Rochefort. Dated 7th June.

Richard Blount of Sodynton, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Aquitaine and Wales, had letters of attorney in the names of Walter Blount and John fitz Herbert. Dated 4th July.

John de Frodesham, in the same retinue, had letters of attorney dated 8th November.

OPERATIONS IN THE NORTH OF FRANCE, A.D. 1370.

Whilst these events were passing in the South of France, Edward III. had sent Sir Robert Knollys with a force of 1,500 men-at-arms and 4,000 archers to operate in the North of France. He disembarked at Calais in July, from whence he marched by Arras and Noyon to Paris, plundering and burning every place which was not fortified, or was not ransomed by its lord.

From Paris he proceeded towards Anjou, closely followed by Du Guesclin, who was enabled, through the insubordination of a portion of the English army, whose leaders refused to serve under Sir Robert Knollys, to cut off a detachment of 200 men-at-arms who had separated themselves from the main body.¹

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 44 E. III., A.D. 1370.

Hugh le Despencer had letters of attorney dated 9th February.

Edward le Despencer had the same dated 10th February.

Nicholas de Gresley, Knight, in the retinue of Walter Huwet, Knight, had the same dated 12th May.

The following had letters of protection:—

William Dokeseye. Dated 16th June.

Henry Bysshebury. Dated 23rd June.

Walter Wrottesley, in the retinue of Robert de Knolles, Knight. Dated 26th June.

William de Leighton, in the same retinue. Dated 1st June.

OPERATIONS IN FRANCE, 1372-73, 46-47 E. III.

The year 1372 was a very unfortunate one for the English arms. John de Hastings, Earl of Pembroke, was defeated and taken prisoner by the Spaniards on the 23rd June; and Du Guesclin was successful in Brittany against the English and other adherents of John de Montfort.

On the 31st August the King set sail with a large force for Gascony, but was driven back by a succession of storms, and forced to renounce the attempt.² In the following year, in order to avoid

¹ Sir Robert Knollys had risen by his military talents from a comparatively low station, and the great nobles were indignant at being placed under his command. Froissart always calls him Robert de Canolles.

² The troops were never landed, and it is probable that most of the horses were lost, for the King gave large compensations to the leaders. The Retinue Rolls which remain of this expedition are headed, *super mare, in presentia Regis, or per la voiage sur la maer*. The dates are from 8th August to 6th October, when most of the army disembarked at Winchelsea.

a similar mishap, it was determined to penetrate into Gascony over land, and John of Gaunt Duke of Lancaster, at the head of a large force, marched through France from Calais to Bordeaux. The French did not venture to dispute his passage, but hung on his rear and harassed his troops with continual skirmishes. So long as the English army remained in the fertile provinces of France they appear to have suffered little loss, but as soon as they reached the barren plains and mountains of Auvergne, their horses deprived of forage perished by thousands, and by the time they arrived in Aquitaine, Froissart informs us that their men-at-arms were nearly all dismounted, and large numbers of the infantry had perished by hunger and disease. At Ouchy les Soissons there was a skirmish in which a body of English were defeated, and Walter Hewet, a famous man-at-arms, was killed. Hugh le Despencer, who was acting as Constable, died of disease contracted during this expedition: Froissart says of him, "il fut moult plaint et moult regretté de tous ses amis, car ce fut un gentil cœur et vaillant chevalier, large et courtois. Dieu lui fasse merci."¹

NOTES FROM THE FRENCH ROLL OF 46 E. III., A.D. 1372.

Alured de Sulney and Edmund de Appelby were appointed commissioners to array 30 archers in co. Stafford for service with John Duke of Lancaster. Dated 16th February.

Henry ap Griffith, Chivaler, in the retinue of Thomas Earl of Warwick, had letters of attorney in the names of Henry Tymmor, Clerk, and Robert Burgiloun. Dated 8th May.

John de Wolseley, John Poutrell, and others, of the retinue of John de Neville, about to set out beyond seas, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 23rd June.

Nicholas de Audele, Knight, and Ralph Basset of Drayton had letters of attorney to last for a year, dated 3rd August.

The following of the King's retinue had letters of protection dated 4th to 23rd August:—

¹ Froissart speaks probably from personal knowledge, for in one part of his Chronicle he says: "De ma jeunesse j'avois été nourri en la cour et hotel du noble Roi Edouard de bonne memoire, et de la Reine Philippe sa femme, et entre leurs enfans et les barons d'Angleterre, qui pour ce temps vivoient et y demeuroient: car tout honneur, amour, largesse et courtoisie j'avois vu et trouvé en eux." He was born in 1387, and commenced his history in 1353, for he says in another place, "Sachez que sur l'an de grâce 1390, je y avois labouré trente-sept ans." For lightness and gracefulness of style no other mediæval writer can compare with him.

Edmund fitz Hereberd, Knight.

Adam Tromwyne.

Thomas Stafford, King's Sergeant-at-Arms.

Thomas Coven, Knight.

Ralph Basset of Sapecote, Knight.

Thomas le Despencer, Knight, Hugh le Despencer, Knight, Fulk de Pembrugge, Knight, and others, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of protection till All Saints. Dated by the King from Westminster 5th August.

Humfrey de Stafford, Knight, and Walter de Stafford, Adam de Knyghton, and others, in the retinue of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, had letters of protection till All Saints. Dated 8th August.

Roger Hillary, Knight, John Skeffington, William Basset, Thomas Mounford, and many others, in the retinue of John King of Castile and Duke of Lancaster, had letters of protection till All Saints. Dated by the King from Westminster 8th August.

Richard de Stafford, junior, Chivaler, in the retinue of Edward Prince of Wales, had letters of attorney in the names of Magister Edmund de Stafford and Hugh Hopewas, Canon of St. Cedde of Lichfield, to last till All Saints. Dated 3rd September.

William de Chetwynd, Chivaler, in the retinue of John King of Castile and Duke of Lancaster, about to set out beyond seas (*supra mare*), had letters of protection till the Feast of All Saints. Dated from Walyneford 1st September, by Richard son of Edward Prince of Wales the Custos of England.

FRENCH ROLL, 47 E. III., A.D. 1373.

John de Peyto, Knight, son of William de Peyto, about to set out abroad in the retinue of Edward le Despencer, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 4th May.

William fitz Herbert of Northbury, in the retinue of Thomas Earl of Warwick, had letters of attorney dated 10th May.

Henry de Morhalle, in the retinue of Hugh Earl of Stafford, had letters of attorney dated 6th May.

John de Brompton, Scutifer, in the retinue of Walter Huet, had letters of protection for a year. Dated 6th May.

Thomas de Bermyngeham, Chivaler, had letters of attorney in the names of Fulk de Bermyngeham, Chivaler, and Thomas de Norton. Dated 12th May.

John Walters of Pilentenhale, in the retinue of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, had letters of attorney for a year dated 10th May.

The following, about to set out abroad in the retinue of Hugh Earl of Stafford, had letters of protection for a year :—

William de Chetewynde of Inglystre, Knight. Dated 13th May.

William Hamstede. Dated 12th May.

John Ipstones. Dated 14th June.

Humfrey de Stafford, Knight. Dated 25th June.

Avered Trussel, Armiger. Dated 23rd June.

Thomas Persous. Dated 11th June.

The following, about to set out abroad in the retinue of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, had letters of protection for a year :—

Richard Bagot. William de Leyghton.

Thomas de Ardenne, Chivaler. Henry ap Griffith, Chivaler.

The following, about to set out abroad in the King's service, had letters of attorney for a year :—

John de Bermingham, Knight, in the retinue of Edward le Despencer. Dated 13th June.

Ralph Basset of Drayton. Dated 17th June.

Thomas de Arderne, under the names of Richard de Stafford, Chivaler, senior, and Hugh de Hopewas, Clerk. Dated 18th June.

Vivian de Staunton (Standon) had letters of attorney dated 12th July.

The following had letters of protection :—

Edward le Despencer, Knight, dated 28th June.

Hugh Burnel, Knight, in the retinue of Edward le Despencer. Dated 5th July.

Humfrey de Stafford, in the retinue of Hugh Earl of Stafford. Dated 27th June.

Hugh Earl of Stafford, about to set out abroad in the King's service, had letters of attorney in the names of Richard de Stafford, Knight, and Nicholas de Stafford, Knight, to last for a year. Dated 20th July.

Amongst the Army Miscellanea of the Exchequer there is a retinue roll of Thomas de Beauchamp Earl of Warwick, who was serving this year with John King of Castile and Duke of Lancaster (John of Gaunt). The retinue comprised 27 Knights, amongst whom were Richard de Stafford, Thomas de Arderne, Thomas de Bermingham, and 172 Esquires, who are styled "*scutiferi homines*

ad arma;" amongst these were Walter de Wrottesley, John de Swinnerton, William de Swinnerton, John de Wolseley, Henry de Pipe, William fitz Herbert, William de Leighton, Thomas de Levinton, Ralph Basset, John Wolaston, Thomas Beck, William de Ferers, Thomas de Pyrie, Hugh Griffith, Robert Sweneshed, and John Arderne.

The accounts comprise a space of 314 days from the 16th June, 47 E. III. (1373), on which day the Earl arrived at Sandwich with his retinue, to the 26th April following, on which day he arrived at Portsmouth on his return home ("*quo die applicuit apud Portes-muth versus partes proprias*"). A note against the name of each Knight or Squire gives the date of their arrival at Sandwich, from which day their pay commenced: each Knight received 2s. a day, and each Esquire 12d.

In February, 1374, a truce was concluded, to last till 1st May, 1375; it was extended in 1375 to last till 1st April, 1377. The Black Prince, whose health had been failing for some time, died on 8th June, 1376, and the King died at Shene on the 21st June, 1377.

ADDENDA.

THE BARONS' WAR, 49-50 HEN. III., A.D. 1265-1266.

The following writs appear on the Close Roll of 50 Hen. III. The Sheriff of Staffordshire is commanded to admit to the King's peace the following who had submitted through the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfeld, to whom the King had given power to receive the submissions of the rebels who had adhered to Simon de Montfort, viz. : Robert de Ronelegh and Richard, Philip, Giles, and Walter his brothers ; William de Hopewas, James de Tymmore, William de Esseby, Thomas de Pessale, Robert de Suggenhull, Ralph de Elleford, and Richard de Stafford.

Mandate to Roger de Clifford, Constable of Gloucester Castle to release William de Parles, who was detained there a prisoner (at the intercession of Roger de Somery).

CLOSE ROLL 51 HEN. III., A.D. 1267.

Richard de Loges by deed agrees to pay to the King 100 marks for the redemption of his lands.

Ralph Basset of Sapcote by deed grants to John de Verdun his manors of Sapcote and Stanton, to be held by the said John until he had paid to him 1,000 marks for their redemption, the money to be paid by instalments at John de Verdun's Castle of Alveton, or at the Abbey of Croxden, as John should think fit. Witnesses : John fitz Alan Lord of Arundel ; Sir Roger de Somery, Sir Robert Aguilun, Sir William de St. Odomar, Sir Walter de Dunstanville, Sir Richard de Mundeveile, Sir John de Chetewynd.

William de Wavere¹ compounds with Roger de Sumery to give him his manor of Marston in co. Warwick, for which Roger restores to him all his other lands which had been given to him by the King.

PATENT ROLL 52 HEN. III., A.D. 1268.

The King remits all his anger against Eustace de Watford arising out of the late disturbances in the Kingdom, in consequence of laudable service rendered by the said Eustace.

A pardon under the Great Seal was granted to Robert Hasteng, and his lands which had been given by the King to James de Aldideley (Audley) and to Hugh de Turberville, are to be restored to him.

¹ William de Wavere held Amblecote in Staffordshire of Roger de Somery.

Jordan de Piveleston of co. Stafford is pardoned for his rebellion against the King.

A writ to Robert de Neville and other Justiciaries states that whereas the King had given the lands of William de Bermingham who was killed at Evesham to Roger de Clifford, and the superior lord Roger de Somery having redeemed them under the provisions of the Dictum of Kenilworth, and having the custody of the heir until his full age, the said Roger de Clifford refused to give them up against the provisions of the said Edict, and caused great waste and destruction in them, the said Justiciaries are to return, on the oath of a jury, the amount of damage which had been done by the said Roger.

VASCON ROLL 23 E. I., A.D. 1295.

The following, who were about to set out for Gascony in the retinue of Edmund the King's brother, had letters of protection so long as they were in the service of the King. Dated 17th October.

William de Bermyngeham and Philip de Verney.

DITTO, 25 E. I., A.D. 1297.

The following, who were in Gascony in the King's service, were excused their quota of the Subsidy of a Twelfth, by writ dated 29th January :—

William de Burmyngham,
Robert de Halughton, and
Hugh de Alditheleye.

Amongst the Army Miscellanea of the Exchequer is a mutilated fragment of a Retinue Roll of the Earl of Gloucester in Scotland. The date and most of the heading is illegible, but it seems to belong to the early part of the reign of Edward III. The only portion of the Roll which is legible is the appraisalment of the horses of the retainers of Ralph Baron Stafford and Hugh le Despencer.

After two lines in which the name of the Earl only is legible, occurs—

Le Baron de Stafford (the rest illegible).

Monsr. Rauf Basset, un cheval blanc pawys .. 20 marks.

Mons^r. Richard de Stafford, un cheval grusel
broun 18 marks.

Mons^r. Robert de Rideware, un cheval blank
piele 100s.

Esquiers le Baron de Stafford—

James de Pype, un cheval blanc piard 10 marks.

Roger Michel, un cheval blanc grusel 100s.

William de Perton, un cheval noir 100s.

John le Barker, un cheval noir grusele 100s.

Phelip de Whyteleye, Esquiere Sir Rauf Basset,
un cheval blank serrant 100s.

William de Bracebrugge son autre Esquiere, un
cheval serant pomele. 100s.

John Mareschal, Esquiere Sir Richard de Stafford,
un cheval bay 100s.

John de Cresse, Esquiere Sir Robert de Rideware,
un cheval blanc serant pomele 100s.

John de Stafford, un cheval morel 12 marks.

Walter Only, un cheval broun bay 100s.

Richard de Merton, un cheval noire banson .. 100s.

John Hillary, un cheval noire bay ad une estrelle
en la front 100s.

Les Chivalers de la retenaunce Mons^r. Hugh le
Despencer—

Pur lui mesme un cheval powys serant £40

Item pur corps de mesme M^r. Hugh, un cheval
blanc 40 marks.

Mons^r. William de Kareswelle, un cheval sor grisel 50 marks.
and fourteen others.

The following interesting Muster Roll of the army of Edward III. at Creci and Calais, A.D. 1346, is taken from the Dodsworth MSS. in the Bodleian Library at Oxford.¹ It shows conclusively that Edward III. had cannon at Creci as stated by Villani the Italian historian. These were probably constructed in the Low Countries, the King having many of the gentry of Brabant in his service, and the cities of Flanders being already famous for their workmanship in steel and iron.

Ex rotulo quondam penes Arturum Agard in Thesauro Regis in novo Palatio Westmonasteriensi reposito.

20 E. III.

Retinentia Regis E. III., in exercitu suo in partibus Normanniæ, Franciæ, et coram Calesia anno regni sui vicesimo.

ad 20s. per diem	Dominus Princeps.	
ad 6s. 8d. per diem	Episcopus Dunelmensis.	
ad 6s. 8d. per diem	Comites	13
ad 4s. per diem	Barones et Baronetti ..	44
ad 2s. per diem	Milites	1,046
ad 12d. per diem	Scuteferi, Constabularii ²	
	Centenarii ³ et Ductores ..	4,022
ad 6d. per diem	Vintenarii ⁴ et Sagittarii equites	5,104
	Pauncenarii ⁵	335
ad 6d. per diem	Hobelarii ⁶	500
ad 3d. per diem	Sagittarii pedites	15,480
Aliqui ad 12d., 10d., 6d., et 3d. per diem	{ Cementarii, Carpentarii fabri, Ingeniatores, Pavilonarii minarii, Armatores, Gunnatores et Artillarii	314
	Walenses pedites	4,474 unde
	200 vintenarii ad 4d. per diem et residui ad 2d. per diem	

¹ Dodsworth MS. No. 126, folio 80.

² The Constables were the officers of mounted men.

³ The Centenarii were the officers of men on foot.

⁴ The Vintenarii were officers of men on foot of a lower grade than the last.

⁵ Pauncenarii or Pawnsmen were heavily armed infantry in coats of mail.

⁶ The Hobelars were lightly armed horsemen. In the wars of Edward I. they were very numerous, but at this date they appear to have been superseded by the mounted archers. The name still exists in the Hobby-horse.

Magistri Constabularii, Mari-
narii et Pagetti,
700 Navium, Bargeorum,
Balingarium, et Vittellarium 1,600

Summa totalis hominum predictorum preter Dominos 31,000
et 294, quorum aliqui homines de Alemania gallia⁷ quolibet
capiendi pro vadiis suis 15 floren⁸ per mensem.

Summa totalis vadiorum Guerræ cum vadiis marinarum, a 4
die Junii anno 20 dicti Regis E. III., usque 12 diem Octobris anno
21 ejusdem Regis, per unum annum et 131 dies, ut patet in libro
de libro de particulis compoti Walteri Wetewange tunc Thesaurarii
Hospitii, titulo totali vadiorum guerræ in partibus Normanniæ,
Franciæ, et coram Calesia. Fol. 128. 127^m. 201^{li}. 2s. 9d. ob.

Domino Edwardo Principi Walliæ existenti in obsequio Regis
in partibus Normanniæ, Franciæ, et coram Calesia cum retentione
suâ pro vadiis Guerræ ad 20s. ; xi Banerettis, quolibet ad 4s. ; 102
milites, quolibet at 2s. ; 264 scutiferi, quolibet ad 12d. ; 384 sagittarii
equites, quolibet ad 6d. ; 69 sagittarii pedites, quolibet at 3d. ; 513
Wallenses, quorum unus capellanus ad 6d., unus medicus, unus
proclamator, 5 standardi et 25 vintenarii quolibet ad 4d., et 480
pedites quolibet ad 2d. per diem.

Domino Henrico Comiti Lancastriæ existenti coram Calesio in
obsequio Regis cum retentione suâ pro vadiis suis guerræ et
unius comitis utroque ad 6s. 8d. ; xi Baneretti quolibet ad 4s. ; 193
milites quolibet ad 2s. ; 512 scutiferi quolibet ad 12d. ; 46 homines
ad arma equites, et 612 sagittarii equites quolibet ad 6d. per diem.

Domino Willelmo de Bohun Comiti Northampton, existenti in
obsequio Regis in partibus Normanniæ Franciæ et coram Calesia,
2 Baneretti, 46 milites, 112 scutiferi, 141 sagittarii equites, ad
vadia ut supra.

“CHARTULARY” OF THE PRIORY

OF

ST. THOMAS (A’BECKET)

NEAR STAFFORD.

(Founded circa 1173–75 A.D.)

COLLECTED, AND EDITED,

BY

REV. F. PARKER.

A CHARTULARY

OF

ST. THOMAS' PRIORY, NEAR STAFFORD.

IN attempting to publish a chartulary of the "Augustinian" Priory of St. Thomas, we have to meet this difficulty, that no complete collection of that house's deeds exists; the nearest approach to it will be found in some twenty pages of a small MS. book of Sampson Erdeswicke's, numbered "506," among the Harleian MSS. at the British Museum: stript of its modern binding this volume might easily be taken for a mere note book, containing at best rough drafts for Erdeswicke's important work on the history of Staffordshire; certainly these few leaves are but a chartulary in outline, not to be compared for a moment with that of Ronton, although in point of revenue, and therefore in the number of its charters, St. Thomas equalled, if it did not surpass, that priory.

Fortunately for our purpose, however, many of the St. Thomas' original deeds fell into the hands of the late Sir Thomas Phillipps, and have been preserved in the library at Thirlestone House, Cheltenham; of these rather more than a hundred will be printed in the present collection.¹

The rest are chiefly from Walter Chetwynd's MS. "History of Pirehill;" they have been compared with such of the originals as remain in Mr. Fenwick's possession; and will be found taking precedence here, in right both of their date and their importance. Some few deeds have been inserted from Chetwynd's MSS. note books at Ingestre; with three or four from his collection of family papers.

The "William Salt" Library has furnished one or two valuable transcripts of MSS. in the British Museum, &c., and especially the

¹ By the kindness of Mr. Fenwick, to whom the writer is indebted for access to these charters, without which the work must have fallen through.

original deed of Gerard, son of Brien, for the foundation of the Priory, which is copied imperfectly in the "Monasticon," but has been here reproduced in autotype,¹ together with the common seal of St. Thomas a fine example of early 15th century work.² These may be taken as the chief sources, if we except an interesting and lengthy grant of lands at Newton, near Blithfield, for which we are indebted to Colonel Hunter Weston, who copied it for General Wrottesley.

The bulk of the Chartulary has been arranged alphabetically, for more convenient reference; which was the rather necessary, because Erdeswicke's MS. outline appears to have been too hurriedly drawn up to pay much attention to order: deeds relating to one and the same place, notably so in the case of Stafford, being distributed unaccountably among the rest; while the drawback is not lessened by a handwriting very small, cramped, and, owing to the numerous abbreviations, difficult to decipher.

To give here any account of "St Thomas" Priory would be to anticipate the history of the "Hundred," which, it is hoped, the William Salt Society will be able to publish in course of time; but as the deeds contained in this chartulary affect many parts of Staffordshire, and, with some few exceptions, have never as yet been published, the Editorial Committee consider that it will serve the end they have in view to add this to the more important chartularies of Abbeys and Priories which they have already printed.

It only remains, then, to point out, that the headings, printed in italics before each place, are from an old parchment roll of the St. Thomas' property found by Walter Chetwynd among the "Fowler" papers: here inserted piecemeal, that the reader may see at a glance where deeds are missing; and because it will be found for the most part incorporated "as a whole" in the earlier charters of Bishop Richard Peche.

The "Dodsworth" MSS., belonging to the Bodleian Library, were

¹ The autotype reduces the size of the original deed about one-fourth.

² This seal, as Dr. Cox informs me, is of later date than I supposed, and certainly not much earlier than 1425 A.D. A grant of lands at Clayton Griffyn from St. Thomas to Trentham Priory exists among the Trentham muniments. It bears a small oval seal in green wax about three-quarters of an inch long, representing the murder of Archbishop Becket by the four Knights. A priest stands behind the former, holding over him a cross. The Knights wear square-topped helmets. The whole design is particularly well executed.

examined, but proved to contain very little relating to this subject, and that little only transcribed from Erdeswicke's papers : the same being the case with Harleian MS. 2044 B.M., which copies, not always very accurately, about twenty of the Erdeswick deeds.

A list of the "Priors of St. Thomas," though far from complete, has been added to assist those who are concerned in dating the charters.

PRIORS OF ST. THOMAS NEAR STAFFORD.

Walter,¹ Prior of St. Thomas. ("Ronton Chartulary," "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 267.)

Adam, Prior of St. Thomas. ("Wolseley Deed," *temp.* R. I. or John. "Leigh MSS.")

Nicholas, Prior of St. Thomas 1203 A.D. ("Fradswell Deeds.")

Philip, Prior of St. Thomas 1221-28 A.D.

Richard,² Prior of St. Thomas 1248 A.D. ("Final Concords," "Staffordshire Historical Collections," p. 238.)

Nicholas de Aspley, Prior 1257-92 A.D., &c.

Richard de Hildestone, Prior 1295-1342 A.D.

Thomas de Tydnesouvre,³ on death of Richard de Hilderstone, elected 1342-47 A.D.

Robert Cheadle,⁴ elected 1347-58 A.D., &c.

Richard de Mere,⁴ elected 1365 A.D. (Robert de Hilderstone, the other candidate, had been chosen, but his election was annulled by the Bishop.)

Nicholas de Huxton,⁵ 1377-1404 A.D.

Thomas Swineshede,⁴ elected 1405-12 A.D.

Richard Bowyer,⁴ elected 1412 A.D.

Richard Stafford,⁴ elected 1437-46 A.D.

Richard Colwich,⁴ elected 1447-78 A.D.

William Chedull,⁴ elected on resignation of Richard Colwich, 1478 A.D.

¹ It is difficult to determine precedence between these two Priors; "Adam" might naturally be preferred, in the absence of further evidence, were it not that Thomas Noel, whose deed Walter attests, died at an advanced age in 1206 A.D. Since this was written I have found proof in a Wolseley deed that Walter was the Prior in Gerard son of Brien's day.

² The notice in the rolls of 1248 A.D. is the only authority I have met with for this name.

³ (1342 A.D.) The electing Canons were: Roger de Aldelyne, John de Stafford, Robert de Podemore, William Noreis, Robert de Hilderstone,* *Roger de Stafford*, Robert de Chedle,† *John de Ruggeleye*, Thomas de Presthope,† *Richard le Rotour*, John de Swynnerton,† *Henry de Cnyghteleye* (Knightley). (Thomas de Tydnesouvre had been sub-Prior.)

(1585 A.D.) Besides Prior Richard Wythell, the following canons were pensioned at the surrender: Richard Harvey, sub-Prior, Xtopher Simson, Thomas Bageley, Brother Wm. Pykestock, Brother Wm. Stapulton, Brother Wm. Bordon.

⁴ These elections have been taken from the Lichfield Episcopal Registers. The Priors elected were submitted for confirmation to the Bishop.

⁵ In the grant of Weston-on-Trent Church, the following members of the Priory occur: N. de Huxton (Prior), Fr. Nich. Lichfield, sub-Prior, Fr. Wm. de Bedenhale, Fr. Hugh de Ronton, Fr. Thomas Swineshede, Fr. Walter de Roleston, Fr. Richard de Ley, Fr. Nicholas de Yoxhall, Fr. John de Stafford, Fr. John de Ashull, Fr. Philip de Stanford. (1889 A.D.)

* Sub-Prior in 1847 A.D.

† These three were guilty of great irregularities in A.D. 1347, as will appear in the Bishop's visitation.

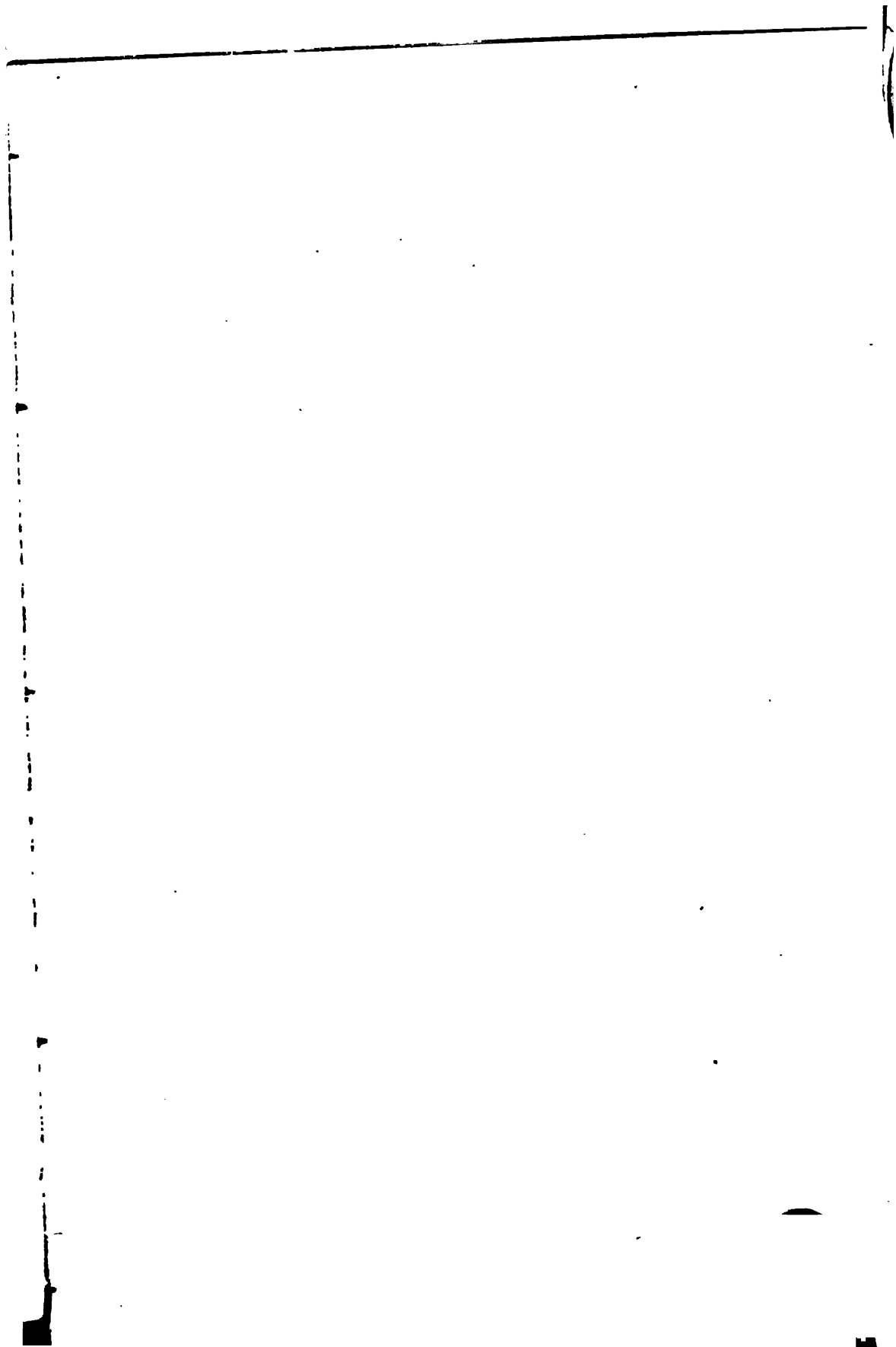
William Smith,¹ (?) elected 1494 A.D.

John Messingham, Prior in 1525 and 1530 A.D. (21 H. VIII.) (Chetwynd MSS.)

Richard Wythell, Prior at surrender of St. Thomas, 1535 A.D.

¹ *Vide* Coles MSS. Vol. XXVII. (B.M.), but there is considerable uncertainty between this Priory and Stone. (*Vide* Vol. XLV., same collection.)

35 E. I. Plea Rolls, "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VII. A suit for trespass by Agnes widow of Henry Wymer, against St. Thomas, names (besides Richard de Mere, Prior) these canons: Brother Richard de Cocton, Brother Adam Giffard, Brother William of the Ree, Brother Robert de Weston, Brother Henry de Huttesdon, Brother Thomas de Huttesdon. (1307 A.D.)



FOUNDATION DEED.

FROM AN ORIGINAL AT THE SALT LIBRARY.

(*Vide* AUTOTYPE.)

(CIRCA 1174 A.D.)

SCIANT tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Gerardus¹ de Stafford, filius Brien, dedi et concessi in puram et perpetuam elemosinam Deo, et sancte Marie,

¹ Gerard de Stafford, son of Brian, was, so far as can be ascertained, a wealthy burgess of Stafford, holding under Bishop Richard Peche the land he gave by this deed for the site of the Priory, and although the Bishop's zeal to advance the foundation had naturally a far more important bearing on the welfare of St. Thomas', still, looking at Gerard's application to Albinus, Abbot of Derby (mentioned above), and to the frequent occurrence of his name attesting grants of neighbouring benefactors, Gerard's claim to be the actual founder, or *at the least co-founder*, must be allowed. The following deeds throw light on Gerard's family and property in Stafford: "Carte Gerardi, filii Briani de Stafford,* *ante* fundacionem prioratus Sancti Thome." (B.M.)

"Sciunt p. et f., quod Ego Gerardus filius Briani de Stafford, dedi et concessi, et hac p. cartâ meâ confirmavi Willielmo filio meo terram meam inter terram Wymer (?) et terram que fuit Hugonis Brien, illi et heredibus suis in feodo et hereditate, libere, &c., post obitum Edithe uxoris mee in perpetuum tenendam. Reddendo annuatim domino Regi in Pentecoste 9d. pro omni servicio ad illam terram pertinente, ut et hec mea donacio in perpetuum valeat eam cartâ meâ, et sigilli mei appositione roboro, &c." (B.M.)

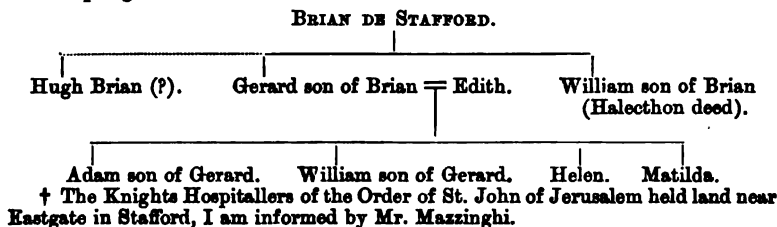
"Sciunt p. et f., Franc. et Anglici, quod ego Gerardus, filius Briani de Stafford, dedi, &c., Willielmo filio meo medietatem terre mee de Stafford in foro, illam scilicet que fuit Eline puelle post obitum Edithe uxoris mee. Tenendam libere, &c. Reddendo annuatim Ade fratri suo 9d. pro omni servicio ad illam, &c." (B.M.)

"Sciunt p. et f., Franc. et Angl. quod Ego Gerardus, filius Briani de Stafford, dedi, &c., Helene filie mee dimidiam terre mee quam tenui de Hospitali de Jerlm, in parochiâ Sancti Cedde, cum medietate edificiî ejusdem terre, in feodo et hereditate, libere, &c., sibi et heredibus suis. Reddendo annuatim† Sancto Hospitali Jerlm (Jerusalem) in fest. Michael. tres denarios pro omni servicio ad terram pertinente et ut hec, &c." (B.M.)

"Sciunt p. et f., Fran. et Angl., quod Ego Gerardus filius Briani de Stafford, concessi, &c., Matilde filie mee dimidiam terre mee quam tenui de Sancto Hospitali in Jerlm in parochiâ S. Cedde, cum medietate edificiî ejusdem terre in feodo, &c. Reddendo 8d. annuatim Sancto Hospitali Jerlm, &c." (ut supra). (B.M.)

* Erdeswick does not name his authority for this statement that the deeds are "earlier" than the foundation of the Priory.

The pedigree then stands thus:—



et beato Thome martyri, et canonicis Deo et Sancto Thome regulariter servientibus, totam terram meam quam tenui de Episcopo Cestrensi, quæ est ultra aquam contra Bercleswich (Baswich), scilicet a Kinesford¹ usque ad Withedenslad(e)² in longum, et in latum a viâ de Tikeshale usque in aquam, scilicet "Sowe," et de aquâ quantum spectat ad illam terram; hanc autem terram pro salute anime mee, et uxoris mee, et parentum nostrorum, dedi et concessi canonicis quos Albinus,³ Abbas de Derebi, tradidit mihi ad serviendum ibidem Deo, et Sancte Marie et Sancto Thome, libere et sine subjectione alterius domûs; illis nominatim, et omnibus illis, qui cum illis, et post illos, ibidem Deo servient canonice, concessi prenominatam terram solutam et liberam et quietam. Ego autem ero advocatus eorum, et protector memorati loci, contra omnes, ita ut nichil auferam inde, vel addam, ad nocentiam domûs contra consilium fratrum. Hiis testibus: Radulfo⁴ Archidiacono, et clericis suis, scilicet, Rogero Capellano, et Bartolomeo, et Magistro Rogero de Stafford, et Henrico presbytero, et (H)edrico presbytero, et Willmo Speri (H)osberto, presbytero, Willielmo de Lichfield, Nicholao filio Ailwene, et Herveio⁵ Vicecomite, Ivone de Mutton, Pagano de Wastneys, Nicholao de Cotes,⁶ Willielmo filio Winge Wimero⁷, Radulpho filio Turgis,⁸ Horm, Willielmo filio Turkil, Radulpho de London, Willielmo parmentario (tailor), et multis aliis. (William Salt Library, Staffordshire.)

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Gerardus Brieni (filius), concessione Ade et Willielmi filiorum et heredum meorum, dedi pro salute anime mee, et meorum, in puram et perpetuam elemosinam, Deo, et domui Sancti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, terram illam in Stafford que fuit Rogeri Scad,⁹ cum incremento quod ad terram illam addidimus ex parte posteriori, scilicet usque ad terram Sancte Marie. Tenendam et habendam de Willielmo filio meo, et heredibus suis. Reddendo eis annuatim octo denarios ad festum Apostolorum Petri et Pauli, pro omni servicio seculari; ut autem hec mea donacio in perpetuum stabilis permaneat, eam presente scripto, et sigilli mei impressione, et testium appositione, confirmavi. Hiis testibus, &c. (B.M.)

¹ Some traces of Kinesford, on the Stafford side, survive in Kingston pool, cover, and hill.

² Wythedenslade—"the level ground running along the willow dell." Mr. Clifford identifies this with "the woody and watery dell on the Tixall side of the Priory."

³ Tanner states in a note that one "Albinus" was Prior of Derby in the times of H. II. and R. I. [The reference has been kindly supplied by Mr. de Mazzinghi.] Even putting aside the evidence of Ralph de Thamewood's signature, the usual date given for the foundation, namely, *circa* 1181 A.D., might be rejected. Seeing that Bishop Peche, its chief benefactor, took the habit and died at St. Thomas in 1182 A.D., the work of building, together with the number of endowments mentioned in his charters, could hardly have been completed in so short an interval. Archbishop Becket, to whom the Priory was dedicated, was murdered on 28th December, 1170, and canonized in 1178. Perhaps *circa* 1174 A.D. would be the approximate date for the foundation.

⁴ Ralph de Thamewood was Archdeacon of Stafford in 1175 A.D., but Alan succeeded him before the end of that year. This may be taken as conclusive evidence that the Priory was founded not later than 1175 A.D. (*Vide* Chronicle of Oseney, cited by le Neve.)

⁵ Harvey the Sheriff must be Harvey de Stratton, holder of that office from 1166 to 1184 A.D.

⁶ Pagan de Wasteneys, lord of Tixall manor, was, we believe, the son of Geoffrey, and identical with the Payne murdered in 1207 A.D. (*Vide* "History of Colton.")

⁷ Nicholas de Cotes = N. Malveisin.

⁸ Wimer of Stafford is named in the Pipe Roll (1164). ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., p. 39.)

⁹ Ralph son of Turgis occurs among the Staffordshire grants.

¹⁰ For further allusion to this land and grant, *see* deeds under heading "Stafford."

[*Ex pervetusto rotulo MS. in bibl. Hattonianâ, 1640.*] (*Vide "Monasticon," latest edition.*)

Huic W. (scilicet Waltero Durdent) apud Coventriam sepulto, successit Ricardus Peche, ad electionem L. Prioris, et monachorum Coventrie, et apud Coventriam intronizatus, sed non sepultus, sepultus est enim apud Stafford,¹ in ecclesiâ quam ipse struxerat in honore Beati Thome martiris, ubi habitum canonicorum regularium susceperat, in quo habitu sepultus est; Nam allata sunt pontificalia ejus per G. Peche, consanguineum suum, monachum apud Coventriam, sicut ipse Episcopus disposuerat.

"Ricardus" (Peche), Dei gratiâ Coventrensis Episcopus, omnibus sancte matris ecclesie filiis ad quos presentes litere pervenerint, salutem in Domino Justum est, et sacre devotionis plenum, ut ea que locis religiosis fidelium devotione collata esse noscuntur, ab autoritate Episcopali accipiant firmitermentum: Hinc est quod, pastoralis affectione inducti ecclesie Sancti Thome Martyris de Stafford, et canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus, et in posterum servituris, locum illum quem de nobis Gerardus de Stafford jure tenuit hereditario, in quo ecclesiam eorum, ipsius Gerardi concessione,² fundavimus, nec non et alia, sive ex nostro, sive ex aliorum dono, eis pietatis intuitu collata, presentis scripti autoritate conformavimus, que specialibus vocabulis dignum duximus exprimere—Ex dono nostro molendinum cum stagno, et dumeto juxta "Mulnedigh(t)" ipsi stagno adhærente, quod quidem molendinum illi propriis sumptibus fecerunt—Nec non "Estmoram," que est contra molendinum ex altera parte aque apud Bercleswich; preterea pratum quod spectabat ad manerium nostrum de Eccleshall, quod crebrâ inundatione aquarum sepius deperire solebat, pro quo etiam memorati fratres, operâ sua impensâ, aliud pratum satis eo melius et fructuosius ad opus nostrum apud Eccleshall cessaverunt—nec non terram nostram de Orbreton quam Mabilia et heredes ejus de nobis tenuerunt: item duo burgagia in Lichfield, viz., burgagium Thomæ presbyteri, et burgagium Roberti; item libertatem piscandi in Sowa et Pencrigh; item congruum Husbote, Firebote, et Heibote undecunque in bosco nostro, et quietanciam pannagii propriorum porcorum suorum, et communionem pasture manerii nostri de Bercleswich. Ex dono Alani de Hagingata culturam suam juxta Kinisbroc. Ex dono Aldithæ totam terram suam de Orbreton concessione ecclesie de Stafford. Ex dono Nic. (Mauveysin) de Cotes septem acras terræ in Cotes, et licentiam firmandi molendinum super Kinisbroc, juxta formam Cyrographi ipsius. Ex dono Roberti de Orberton, et heredum suorum, concessione Domini Roberti de Stafford, et Roberti del Bec, et Johis de Hoptona, tres acras terræ et dimidiam in Orberton, et licentiam firmandi molendinum et vivarium³ suum de Kinesbroc: item ex dono nostro eandem licentiam. Ex dono Rogeri la Cyuarte⁴ et Hernaldi de Orberton licentiam firmandi molendinum super Kinisbroc; item pratum quod eis vendidit Aldewinus filius Goldewini de feodo nostro, sicut ejus cyrographum testatur. Ex dono Radulphi⁵ Archidiaconi domos suas in Stafford, et ex concessione Xtiane de Wulverune-Hampton⁶ terram in quâ ille domus site sunt juxta formam scriptorum ipsorum: Ex dono Henrici filii Archidiaconi Helie, terram suam que est juxta predictas domos, se-

¹ Comparing these two statements with the Foundation Charter, we should conclude that Bishop Richard Peche and Gerard son of Brian were co-founders of St. Thomas' Priory.

² Kingston Pool (?).

³ Or *Yuarte* [there is some difficulty about the first, or two first, half-obliterated letters (whether cy or y) in the original Charter among the Philipps' MSS.].

⁴ Given previous to 1175 A.D.

⁵ *Vide* "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 61, where this Xtiana de Wulverhampton brings a suit in 1199 A.D. against Walter son of William, and the Prior of Stafford (St. Thomas), for two messuages in Stafford.

cundum formam cyrographi ipsius. Ex dono Stephani de Devenepoort, et Alfewini Chese terram suam in Halegtonâ: hec itaque que prenominata sunt, vel que in posterum eis canonicè collata fuerint, confirmantes, sub interminatione Anathematis prohibemus ne quis eis molestiam aliquam inferre presumat, vel gravamen. Testibus: Ricardo¹ decano Lichfieldensis Ecclesie, Alano Archidiacono Stafford,² Ricardo Archidiacono Salop, Magistro Roberto de Haya, Magistro Galfrido de Lenton Nigello capellano, Andrea Giffard, Magistro Waltero de Lillesbia, Galfrido rectore Ricardo dapifero, Gilberto Yorm, camerario, Gerardo filio Brieni, Willielmo clerico de Stafford, et multis aliis. [From Walter Chetwynd's notes and Clifford's, compared with the original at the Thirlestane House Library.]

Thomas Prior, et conventus, ecclesie Cathedralis Coventrie, &c. Noverit universitas vestra nos ratas habere et acceptas donationes in omnibus libertatibus suis quas venerabilis dominus noster Ricardus, Coventrensis Episcopus, intuitu caritatis in puram et perpetuam elemosinam contulit Deo et ecclesie Scti Thome Martyris de Stafford, et Canonicis ididem Deo servientibus, quam et ipse in dominio suo fundavit, et cartarum suarum testimonio confirmavit.

Ricardus, Dei gratia Coventrensis Episcopus, omnibus hominibus, tam Francis quam Anglis, tam presentibus quam futuris; eternam in Domino salutem. Noveritis nos, de consensu et assensu Capitulorum nostrorum Cov. et Lichf., pro salute anime nostre, &c., et pro salute Illustrissimi Regis Henrici II.: Concessisse et dedisse in puram et perpetuam Elemosynam Deo, et Sancte Marie, et ecclesie Sancti Thome Martyris de Stafford, et Canonicis ididem Deo servientibus quam nos fundavimus, Burgagium Thome Capellani in Lichfield, libere et quiete ab omni seculari servitio in perpetuum possidentium. Concedimus etiam Ecclesie, et Canonicis predictis, ibidem Deo servientibus, et in posterum servituris, congruum "Housbote," viz., meremium⁴ ad reparandam ecclesiam suam predictam, Campanilia, et omnia alia edificia, intra(?) septa prioratûs jam edificata, &c., percipiendum de bosco nostro infra(?) forestam, sive Chaciam de Kannoek; et Haybote, &c. Concedimus insuper eisdem Priori, et Conventui, et successoribus suis, "Husbote," &c., ad reparandum Grangiam suam de Orberton, &c.

Concedimus etiam eisdem mortuum boscum undecunque in toto nostro Bosco vocato le "Kannoek," sufficienter ad comburendum intra Prioratum dicte Ecclesie. Concedimus etiam, &c., dictis Canonicis Communiam in pasturis nostris in manerio nostro de Berkeswich, cum omnibus averiis suis, &c. Concedimus etiam, &c., totam aquam de "Sowa" a "Stanford" (i.e., Stafford) usque le "Watur" Wending, cum quâdam placeâ Maria, (Maretea?) vocatâ le "Kocholme," et dumetum(?) quod jacet in longitudine inter terram et pratum nostrum de "Halgh," et pratum del "Scepeswach." His testibus: Clericis nostris Willô Cappellano, &c.

Et nos Prior et Capitulum Ecclesie Cathedralis Coventrens. præmissis omnibus et singulis consilium prebuimus et concensum, et quantum ad nos pertinet in perpetuum approbamus, &c.: et nos Decanus et Capitulum Eccleie Cathedral. "Lichfeld" præmissis omnibus et singulis consilium prebuimus et consensum, ac ea, quantum ad nos attinet, in perpetuum approbamus. In quorum Testimonium sigilla nostra fecimus his apponi. Datum in manerio de Heywood.

¹ Richard de Dalam, 1175-1209 A.D. (Le Neve, Vol. I., p. 560.)

² Alan was Archdeacon of Stafford from 1175-82 A.D.

³ Richard Peche, Archdeacon of Salop 1180-90 A.D.

⁴ Meremium = "Lignum domibus aptum" (materia).

⁵ The "Water Windings," vide Ordnance Map; close to the junction of Penk and Sowe.

Universis Xti fidelibus presens scriptum visuris, vel auditoris R.¹ Dei gratia Cov. et Lichf. Ep^{us} salutem æternam in Domino, Privilegia dilectorum in Xto filiorum virorum Religiosorum, Prioris et Conventus S^{cti} Thome Martyris juxta Stafford inspeximus in hec verba: "Celestinus² Ep^{us}, Servus Servorum Dei, dilectis filiis Priori et fratribus Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, tam presentibus quam futuris Regularem vitam professis in perpetuum quotiens a nobis petitur quod religioni et honestati convenire dinoscitur animo nos decet libente concedere, et juxta petentium voluntatem consentaneam rationi effectum congruum impertiri: ea propter dilecti in Domino filii vestris postulationibus clementer annuimus, et prefatam ecclesiam Sancti Thome, in quâ divino estis obsequio mancipati, sub Beati Petri et nostrâ protectione suscipimus, et presentis scripti privilegio communimus. In primis (si) quidem(?) statuentes ut ordo canonicus qui secundum Deum, et beati Augustini regulam, in eodem loco noscitur institutus perpetuis temporibus inviolabiliter observetur. Preterea quas-cunque possessiones, quecunque bona eadem ecclesia in presentiarum juste et canonice possidet, vel que concessione pontificum, largitione regum, vel principum, oblatione fidelium, seu aliis justis modis, Deo propicio poterit adipisci, firma vobis vestrisque successoribus et illibata permaneant. In quibus hec propriis duximus exprimenda vocabulis, Terras quas dederunt vobis Venerabilis frater noster Ricardus Coventrensis Episcopus, et Gerardus filius Brien de Stafford, terram, viz., de "Scepewas," cum ripis suis, pratis, et piscatoriis, et cum omnibus aliis pertinentiis suis, in quâ terrâ predictâ ecclesia vestra fundata est. Cistam (Gistam?) aque de "Kenesbroc," quam dedit vobis Nicholas de Cotes, et ceteri vicini ad quos eadem aqua pertinebat, ad faciendam ibidem molendinam et vivaria, et septem acras terre in Cotes, ex dono ejusdem Nicholai de Cotes. In Orreberton terram quam ex dono "Aldet," et concessione R. decani et Ade canonici, et totius capituli de Stafford habetis. In eadem Orbreton dimidiam virgatam terre et tres acras et selionem ex dono Roberti de Eccleshall, de Orbreton (*sic*). In ipsâ Orberton terras quas ex dono Ricardi, Ernaldi, et Guarini, habetis. In eadem villâ ex dono Ricardi Coventrensis Episcopi homagium Bernardi et servicium ejus, et terre sue. Ex dono ejusdem pratum juxta domum vestram, quod ad Eccleshall olim spectabat, et ex alterâ parte aque versus Stokes (Stocton) totam "Est-moram," cum dumeto inter "Mulne-dich" et aquam, et licentiam firmandi molendinum et stagnum super aquam de Sowe, et libertatem piscandi in Sowe et Pencriz, et communam pasturam in manerio de Bercleswiz, et quietanciam pannagii propriorum vestrorum porcorum in bosco episcopali. In Lichfield duo burgagia ex dono ejusdem, scilicet Ricardi Episcopi Coventrensis, que (*sic*) fuit Thome presbiteri, et que fuit Roberti. Ex dono Galfridi Salvagii quatuor virgatas terre in Durandesthorp cum omnibus pertinentiis suis. Ex dono Symonis de Falmerisham³ unam hidam terre in Falmerisham. Ex dono Roberti de Bec, et aliis de Hopton, terram de "Hetbon," et totum "Black-hull," et communem pasturam ejusdem ville secundum cartas earum. In territorio de Hayenyate unam culturam terre juxta Kynesbroc, et aliam culturam circa Quennedale. In Ingestrond sex acras terre ex dono Ivonis (de Mutton) cum corpore suo. In Ricardescote pratum quod dicitur Broc-acre ex dono Reginaldi Gawte. In Haleton ex dono Philippi de Newgent, et Milane dimidiam virgatam terre. In eadem villâ ex dono Stephani et Phil. Dionis dim. virgat. terre. In Aldeton mansuram et toftum cum tribus acris terre ex dono Roberti de Kinchester. In Stafford Burgagia, que Gerard filius Brien, Hugo filius Petri, Will.

¹ Bp. R. of this important charter is probably Roger de Weseham, 1245-56 A.D.

² Pope Celestinus III., 1191 A.D. (?). The original of this Bull is among the Philipps' MSS., and has been compared with Ohtwynd's rendering.

³ (Where is this?).

Bagod, W. Ursus, Adam de Grenevill, Nic. de Burton, Alda¹ de Beauchamp, dederunt vobis. Sive novalium vestrorum, que propriis manibus vel sumptibus colitis, sive de nutrimentis animalium vestrorum nullus a vobis Decimas exigere, vel extorquere, presumat. Liceat quoque vobis clericos vel laicos, liberos et absolutos, e seculo fugientes, ad conversionem recipere, et eos abaque contradictione aliquā retinere. Prohibemus insuper ut nulli fratrum vestrorum post factam in loco vestro professionem, fas sit, nisi arctioris religionis optentu, de eo discedere. Discedentem vero abaque communium literarum cautione nullus audeat retinere. Cum autem generale Interdictum terre fuerit, liceat vobis, clausis januis, exclusis excommunicatis et interdictis, non pulsatis campanis, suppressā voce divina officia celebrare. Prohibemus insuper ne quis in vos per ecclesiam vestram excommunicationis vel interdicti sententiam, sine manifestā et rationabili causā, promulgare presumat. Sepulturam preterea ipsius loci liberam esse decernimus, ut eorum devotioni et extreme voluntati qui se illic sepeliri deliberaverint, nisi excommunicati vel interdicti sint, nullus absistat. Salvā tamen justitiā illarum ecclesiarum a quibus mortuorum corpora assumuntur. Obeunte vero ejusdem loci Priore, vel suorum quolibet successorum, nullus sub qualibet subreptionis astutiā, seu violentiā, preponatur, nisi quem fratres communi consensu, aut major pars consilii sanior (torn here and a word lost) Dei timorem et beati Augustini regulam providerint, eligendum. Decernimus ergo ut nulli omnino hominum liceat prefatam ecclesiam temere perturbare, aut ejus possessiones auferre, illibatos retinere, minuere, seu quibuscumque vexationibus fatigare, sed omnia integra conserventur eorum pro quorum gubernatione ac sustentatione concessa sunt usibus omnibus profutura: Salvā sedis Apostolice autoritate, et Diocesani Episcopi canonicā justiciā: Si qua igitur in futurum ecclesiastica secularive persona hanc nostre constitutionis paginam sciens, contra eam temere venire temptaverit, secundo tertio comperta, nisi reatum suum dignā satisfactione correxerit, potestatis honorisque sui careat dignitate, reamque se divino judicio existere de perpetrante iniquitate cognoscat, et a sacratissimo corpore ac sanguine Dei et Domini Redemptoris nostri Jesu Christi aliena fiat, atque in extremo examine districtæ ultionis subiaceat. Cunctis autem eidem loco sua jura servantibus sit Pax domini nostri Jesu Christi eterna, et fructum bonæ actionis percipiant, et apud districtum judicem premia eterne pacis inveniant. Amen.

Ne igitur ex malitiā vel fraude alicujus prefatum privilegium in dubium devocetur, presenti pagine signum nostrum ad eternam rei memoriam fecimus apponi.

THE ROYAL GRANT OF FREE WARREN TO ST. THOMAS.

"Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Angl. &c., salutem," Sciatis nos concessisse Priori et Conventui Scī Thome juxta Stafford quod ipsi habeant liberam warennam in omnibus dominicis terris suis in Cotes, Arberton, Hopton, Frodeswall, Drengeton, Haywood, La Lee, Colton, Whitgreave, Mere, Drayton, Stokton,² Acton, Pendiford, et Shadricote in com. Stafford; et in omnibus dominicis terris suis in Swyneshurst, co. Lanc., et Durandesthorpe, co. Leic. Dum tamen ille non sint inter metas foreste nostre: Ita quod nullus intret terras illas ad fugandum in eis, vel ad aliquid capiendum quod ad warrenam pertinet, sine licentiā et voluntate ipsorum Prioris et Conventus, vel successorum suorum, super forisfacturam nostram decem librarum; quare volumus et firmiter precipimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris quod predicti Prior, et conventus, et successores sui, habeant liberam warennam in omnibus

¹ Widow of William the last Baron of Wich-Malbanc. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. II., p. 7.)

² "Stolben," named in the "*Plea Roll*" reference to this right of Free Warren, I conceive to be a mistake for *Stocton* (the more so that *Stocton* is not given there).

dominiis terris suis predictis, &c. Hiis testibus: Henrico de Laci, Comite Lincoln; Ricardo de Burgo, Comite Ulton; Ottone de Grandisono; Rogero de Grey, Nicolao de Sedgrave, Willielmo de Leyborne, Willielmo de Latymer Eustachio Hacche, et aliis. Datum per manum nostrum, &c. Ao. Regn. nostri duodecimo." (12 E. I.) 1284 A.D.

ROL. PAT. 41 H. III. (1257 A.D.)

Rex omnibus, &c. Compatientes paupertati domus Prioratus Sancti Thome juxta Stafford, et ejusdem domus pietate ducti volentes gratiam facere specialem; Concessimus Priori et Conventui ejusdem domus quod quieti sint de "prise" carectarum suarum quotiens per partes suas divertamus (?).

T. R. apud Novum-Castrum subtus Limam quarto die, Augusti.

General Wrottesley, when contributing this reference from the "Patent" Rolls, pointed out "that K. H. III. was on his way to invade Wales." The Welsh having ravaged the March lands as far as Chester, "all the carts and wagons were seized for the use of the Royal army, under the prerogative, take 'prise' of everything required for the King's use." Henry soon retired without effecting anything, and the war was waged with excessive cruelty between the Welsh and the Lords Marchers.

ACTON.

"*Habemus ex dono Johis de Acton,¹ militis, unam virgatam terre in Acton.*"

"*Ex dono Ricardi filii Oliveri de Stretton assarta in Acton. Confirmat. per Simonem dominum de Acton.*"

Sir John de Acton, Knight, grants to the Priory of St. Thomas, near Stafford, a yardland in Acton, for the peace of his own soul, and those of Xtian and Cicely his wives, &c. (Seal, a lion rampant in a scutcheon.) (Walter Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

(CIRCA 1215 (?).)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Johannes, dominus de Acton, dedi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., pro salute anime mee, et meorum antecessorum et successorum, in puram et perpetuam elemosinam, quatuor acras prati assartandas (a hole in deed) includendas intra territorium de Acton; videlicet in "Linechmorā," tenendas, &c., de me, &c., sibi, &c., libere ab omni seculari servicio; et liberum passagium ultra feudum meum ad cariandum fenum suum ubicunque sibi viderit commodius . . . pedire (torn) de detrimento prati, et bladi mei pro tempore. Ego autem (warranty and seal). Hiis testibus: Domino Roberto de Hælemdon Roberto Nohel,² Roberto de Brok, Ada de Ridware,³ Roberto de

¹ For the probable descent of the Acton family (of Acton Trussell), see Vol. III., p. 181, Wm. Salt Historical Collections, where General Wrottesley traces them to Geoffrey de Pierefitte. *Wm. de P.* held Acton in 1175 A.D. (Pipe Rolls), but in 1206 A.D. John son of *Stephen de Acton* contested the claim raised by Philip de Wasteneys for this fief (two-thirds of a knight's fee), Philip's grandmother Alice having held it in 1135 A.D. There seems a difficulty here (?).

² Robert Nohel must be the brother of Thomas Noel, whose name occurs in a Routon charter.

³ Robert de Broc (circa 12 H. III.), 1226 A.D.

⁴ Adam de Ridware, circa 1240.

Whichlton, Pagano de Wastneys,¹ Willielmo de Brocton,² Waltero de Hagenegate,³ et aliis. (Philipp's MS. 7929.)

(1297 A.D.)

Omnibus has literas visuris vel auditoris, Thomas, filius Petri de Brocton, salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me concessisse, &c., Fratri Ricardo Priori Sancti Thome, &c., totum jus meum et clamum quod habui, &c., in tribus acris, et rodâ, prati, cum pertinentiis in "Emerhemor(e)" in feodo de Acton, que quondam fuerunt Willielmi avi mei. Habend, &c., in perpetuum, faciend. inde, predicti Prior et conventus, et successores sui, capitalibus dominis feodi servicium inde debitum, &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Rogero de Aston, Magistro Roberto de Bromley, Johanne de Kerswele, Johanne le Say de Doneston, Johanne de Cotes, Willielmo clerico, et aliis. Datum apud Stafford die Jovis in Vigiliâ Apostolorum Phil et Jacobi, Anno Domini 1297. (Philipp's MS. 7929.)

(1308 A.D.)

Richard, Prior of St. Thomas, and convent, grant to Tho. le Hudel of Acton and Agnes his wife, for their lives, a cottage and curtilage in Acton, situated between that of William Bache and that of Nicholas son of Reginald, at a rent of 8d., payable half-yearly. These witnesses: William de Elmedone, Robert Morisse, Alan de Acton, John le Say de Doneston. Given at St. Thomas, Feast of St. Boniface, 1308 A.D. (Philipp's MS. 7929.)

(1401 A.D.)

Indenture whereby Nicholas Prior of St. Thomas, and convent, grant to Robert Dobson, and Agnes his wife, a messuage and lands, which they held of St. Thomas in Acton, for their lives: they paying down 7s. in silver. Given at St. Thomas, "die Jovis proxima post festum Conversionis S. Pauli." (2 H. IV., 1402 A.D.) (Philipp's MS. 7929.)

ALDELYNE (CHESHIRE).

"*Ex dono Tho. domini de Aldelyne, messuag. cum edificiis in Aldelyne. Ex dono aliorum divers. terras in eadem villa. Ex dono Johannis Cantuar. Archiepi advocat. ecclie de Aldelyne* (1280 A.D.). *Ex dono Tho. de Aldelyne advocat. ecclie de Aldelyne. Ex dono fratris Johannis, Prioris de Wenlok, totum jus quod habuit in jure patronatus ecclie de Aldelyne.*"

(1282 A.D.)

Omnibus, &c., Thomas de Audelime in comitatu Cestr. "salutem." Noverit universitas vestra me concessisse, &c., Fratri Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome juxta Stafford, &c., advocationem ecclesie de Audelime, cum omnibus juribus, &c., sicut aliqua elemosina liberius, &c., teneri poterit in perpetuum. Hiis testibus: Domino Radulpho de Hengham, tunc Justiciario de Banco Domini Regis principali, Domino Gocelino de Badelesmere, tunc Justiciario Cestri, Dñis Willielmo de Audeley, Nicolao de Stafford, Rogero de Peulesdon, Willielmo de Mere, Willielmo Bagot, Henrico de Careswelle, Willielmo de

¹ Pagan de Wastneys, probably Payne No. 2, but uncertain.

² William de Brocton's grandson, it will be observed, is the donor of the succeeding charter dated in 1297 A.D. John de Acton and William de Brocton both attest Harvey Bagot's grant of Drayton in 1194 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. II., p. 263.)

³ Walter de Hagenegate occurs in 1228 A.D.

⁴ Nicholas de Huxton.

Stafford, militibus, Radulpho de Burgo, Willielmo de Tittley, Willielmo de Burton, Ricardo de Hunsterton, et aliis. [*Vide* Plea Rolls, "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 118.] (Philipps' MS. 7903).

The Prior acknowledged that he owed Thomas de Audelime sixty marcs for this grant. To be paid by three instalments.

FROM TRANSCRIPTS IN THE WILLIAM SALT LIBRARY.

"Omnibus Xt. fidelibus presens scriptum visuris vel audituris," Frater Johannes¹ permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Anglie Primus, salutem et pacem in Dño sempiternam: Noverit universitas vestra nos dedisse, concessisse, et p. carta confirmasse, Deo et beato Thome martyri glorioso et religiosi viri Priori et conventui domūs dicti martyris juxta Staffordiam, et successoribus suis, in liberam, puram et perpetuam elemosinam *advocationem Ecclesie de Aldelyme*, in comitatu Cestrie, cum pertinentiis suis, quam habuimus ex dono Johannis Prioris et Conventus de Wenlok in comitatu Salopie, Tenendam et habendam dictam *advocationem* prefate Ecclesie p̄dictis Priori et canonicis Sancti Thome, et successoribus suis, libere, quiete et pacifice in perpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum duximus apponendum. Hiis testibus: Magistris Alano de Freston² Archidiacono Nortfolchie, Reynerio de Florencia, canonico Lychfeldie, Dominis Nicolao de Knovile, Rogero Burt, clericis, Dominis Willielmo de Caeriswalle, Willielmo Bagot, Willielmo de Stafford, Willielmo de Mere, militibus, Radulpho de Wasteneys, Simone de Acton, Willielmo de Morā, et aliis.

[Another copy of the *same deed* gives among the witnesses, Nicolao Barone de Stafford. et Ricardo de Feringe, Archidiacono Cantuarie.]

ALDENTON.

Robertus³ Dominus de Whyston, omnibus hominibus suis et amicis, &c., salutem, "Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse, &c." Deo et Ecclesie Sancti Thome &c., unam toftam in Aldentonā, quam Ervis tenuit, et tres acras terre subtus Chesewich de meo dominio de Mefford,⁴ &c. (B.M.)

AMERTON (BETWEEN STOWE AND WESTON).

(1313 A.D.)

Pateat universis per presentes me Robertum Ferrars, Dominum de Charteley, concessisse et licentiam dedisse Nicolao, Priori domūs Sancti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, et successoribus suis, quod acquietare sibi possint de Ricardo de Hilderstone, baillivo de Drayton, unum messuagium et dimidiam virgatam terre, et unam placeam prati, vocati le "Poolemedewe," cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, quam idem Ricardus habuit ex dono et feoffmento Willielmi Jawmbe, et Hugonis le Whyte in Ambrighton. Habend. et tenend. predictum messuagium terras et pratum, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, predictis Priori et conventui, et successoribus suis, libere, &c., in perpetuum: Salvo mihi prefato Roberto, et heredibus meis, antiquo redditu qui inde solebat meis antecessoribus pervenire. In cujus rei, &c. (Seal.) Hiis testibus: Willielmo de Chetewynde, Nicolao de Stafford,

¹ John Peckham, 1278-92, Archbishop of Canterbury.

² Alan de Freston was Archdeacon in 1276 and 1280 A.D. (*Vide* Le Neve's "Fasti.")

³ Robert de Whyston's name occurs in the Plea Rolls of 35 H. III. (1251 A.D.) his successor was another "Robert." This family descended from Narven, the Domesday tenant of Whiston and Mefford, holding under the Abbot of Rheims. (See General Wrottesley's note, "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 28.)

⁴ Mefford is Meaford, about one and a half miles to the north of Stone, and in that parish. There were two manors of the name in Meaford.

militibus, Willielmo Wasteneys, Radulpho Parker, Rogero de Fulford, et aliis. Datum apud Charteley, die Lune proximâ post festum Sancti Dunstani, Episcopi, Anno Regni R. Edwardi secundi sexto. (Philipps' MS. 7906.)

(1349 A.D.)

Omnibus Xti fidelibus ad quos, &c., Robertus, Prior Sancti Thome martyrjs juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventus, salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra nos tradidisse et concessisse Johanni filio Johannis le Baxder de Ambrychton, et Leticie uxori ejus, ad totam vitam illorum, unum messuagium cum curtilagio etcrofto adjacente, unam placeam terre, dimidiam acram prati, et unam rodam, cum pertinentiis in Ambrychton: que quidem messuagium curtilagium etcroftum simul jacent inter terram Willielmi le Baxder, quam de nobis tenet in feodo, ex unâ parte, et terram quam Willielmus atte Brok de nobis tenet ad terminum vite, ex alterâ, et extendunt se ab altâ viâ usque in Ambrythton Brok: predicta vero placea terra jacet supra "Bromhurst" inter terram predicti Willielmi le Baxder ex unâ parte, et terram quam predictus Willielmus atte Brok de nobis tenet ad voluntatem ex alterâ, et extendit se a terrâ domini de Charteleye usque ad viam ducentem del Stowe versus Stafford. Predicta dimidia acra prati jacet in "Ffore-medewe," inter terram domini de Charteleye ex unâ parte, et pratum quod Agnes, uxor quondam Willielmi Pynchow, tenet ex alterâ, et extendit se del "Broc-Grene" usque pratum Ricardi del Bolde. Predicta vero Roda prati jacet in eodem prato inter pratum predicti Ricardi ex unâ parte et Charteleye-Broc ex alterâ. Habend. et tenend. predicta terras et tenementa cum suis pertinentiis de predictis Priore et conventu, et eorum successoribus predictis Johanni et Leticie ad totam vitam suam, &c., libere, &c.; Reddendo inde annuatim Priori et conventui septem solidos argenti, &c., pro omnibus, salvo forinseco, sectâ curie heriottis post decessum dicti Johannis; Et si contingat, &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Ada atte Pyrie, capellano, Johanne de Bresbydeahulle, Johanne le Parker, Radulpho le Parkere, Hugone le Wasteneys, et aliis. Datum apud prioratum Sancti Thome die Sabbati prox. post festum Annunciationis Beate Marie, Anno Domini 1349. (Philipps' MS. 7906.)

(Some other leases for a term of years to Amerton tenants from Priors Robert and Richard, remain among this parcel of MSS.—but they are of very little interest.)

ABETON, OR APETON (AL AWETON), IN BRADELEY, NEAR GNOSALL.

"Ex dono Philippi de Mutton mil., oes terr. et teñta sua in Apeton."

(CIRCA 1285.)

"Omnibus has literas, &c., dñs Philippus de Mutton, miles, salutem." Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse, &c., Deo, et Beate Marie, et glorioso martyri Thome, et ecclesie sue juxta Stafford, et fratri Nicolao Priori, &c., pro salute anime mee, et anime Petronille uxoris mee, &c., in perpetuam et puram elemosynam, omnes terras et teñta que habui in villâ de Abbeton, in com. Stafford, cum homagiis, redditibus, wardis, releviis, exactis, et commodis, serviciis liberorum, viz., Ade le Mey., et omnibus villanis meis qui de dictâ villâ originem duxerunt, et sequelis ipsorum, &c. Tenend. et habend. prefatis Priori, &c., de Dominâ Isabellâ de Chetwynd, dñâ de Mutton, et heredibus suis, libere et quiete in perpetuum; faciendo inde predictæ Isabellæ et heredibus suis serviciâ debita et consueta. Et predicta Isabella et heredes sui pdictas terras et teñta pdictis Priori, &c., contra omnes homines warrantizabunt in perpetuum. Hiis testibus: Dño Willielmo de Caverswall, Willielmo Bagot, Johanne Giffart de Chillington, militibus, &c. (Chetwynd Chartulary, vide Rewle grants, and Inquisitions, Salt Library Vol. I., p. 195.)

Omnibus &c. Philippus Mutton, dominus de Abbeton, salutem, &c. Noverit, &c., me constituisse Henricum Rote ad ponendum fratrem Nicholaum Priorem Scti Thome m. juxta Stafford, in plenam et bonam seisinam omnium terrarum et teñtorum meorum in Abbeton, cum homagiis omnibus et serviciis liberorum hominum, villanis, villenagiis, &c., in cujus rei testimonium sigillum meum presentibus apposui. (Chetwynd Chartulary.)

(PHILIPPS' MS. 7900.)

(30 ED. I., 1302 A.D.)

Rex Vicecomiti Staff. "salutem." Precipimus tibi quod, &c., diligenter inquiras sisit ad dampnum nostrum, aut aliorum, si concedimus Philippo de Mutton quod in perpetuum dare possit, &c., dilectis nobis in Xto Priori et conventui Scti Thome, juxta Stafford, quatuor virgatas terre cum pertinentiis suis in Abbeton habendas et tenendas, &c. (13 E. I.,¹ 1285 A.D.)

Omnibus Xfi fidelibus, Isabella, quondam uxor Philippi de Chetwynd, salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me concessisse domino Philippo de Mutton, et fratri Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome, &c., ut dictus Philippus libere possit et sine contradictione mei, &c., unam carucatam terre cum pertinentiis in Rewelle, et quatuor virgatas in Abbetone predictis priori et conventui concedere. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Dominis Willielmo de Caverswalle, Willielmo Bagod, Johanne Giffart de Chillington, Hugone de Weston militibus, Waltero de Elmedon, Radulpho de Burgo, Radulpho de Wasteneya, et aliis.

(Several agreements of minor importance between Prior Richard, and one of Prior Nicholas, and their tenants in Apeton, exist among the Philipps' MSS.)

Notum sit omnibus hoc scriptum visuris vel auditoris quod nos Ricardus Prior domus Sancti Thome m. juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventus, concessimus Willielmo, filio Nicholai atte Forde, de Abeton, et Juliane, filie Ade Gerveyse de eadem, uxori sue, pro decem marcis argenti quas iidem nobis dederunt premanibus, unam dimidiam virgatam terre in territorio de Abeton jacentem, illam scilicet quam Osich, pater predicti Willielmi, prius tenuit, preter unam placeam terre infra villam de Abeton, que vocatur "Gamuldesmere" pro qua recepit in escambio tres buttas terre apud le "Birchendich" in territorio predictæ ville. Tenend., &c., de nobis, et successoribus nostris, ad

¹ General Wrottesley points out that "The Inquis. ad quod damnum," dated 31 E. I., 1228 A.D., held pursuant to this writ (touching the grant to St. Thomas by Sir Ph. de Mutton, of a carucate in Rule, and four virgates in Apeton) is extant. The jury stated that Sir Ph. de Mutton, Knight, held a carucate and messuage in Rule of the Church and Canons of Gnowshale, by the service of 3s. annually; and four virgates in "Aweton" of the Lady Isabella of Ingestre, and that it would not be to the damage either of the King, or of the Lady Isabella (unless the said four virgates should happen to fall to custody), if he gave them to St. Thomas. The land in Apeton was held by the service of a quarter of a Knight's fee. "The assent of the chief Lord of the Fee is to be obtained," is endorsed on the return.

Philip de Chetwynde, encouraged thereto by the successful issue of his plea for recovering the "Rule" lands, sued the Priory in 27 E. I. (1229 A.D.) for 62 acres [N.B.—This gives 16½ acres to the virgate] in Abbeton near Gnowsale, stating that Sir Ralph de Mutton's grant had been an unjust disseisin of his (Philip de Chetwynde's) grandfather, another Ralph, son of Adam de Mutton, whose heir he is. He claimed that Ralph his grandfather was seised of the 62 acres in H. III.'s time, and that from him the claim passed to Isabella his daughter and heir, and from her to Philip de Chetwynd. (The Prior prayed a view.) "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VII., p. 62.)

[Eventually the property remained with the Priory by Philip de Chetwynd's grant (*vide supra*), and it will be seen that in the "*Valor Ecclesiasticus*" of Henry VIII. they hold Apeton Manor.]

totam vitam predictorum Willielmi et Juliane, cum omnibus edificiis et curtilagiis, &c., in dictâ villâ de Abeton, et extra, pertinentibus, libera, &c. Reddendo inde annuatim octo solidos argenti ad duos terminos, &c., pro omni servicio, salvo forinseco servicio; Nos autem warrantizabimus, &c., unâ cum ultimo croppo (*sic*), &c. Hiis testibus: Ricardo Spigurnel, Stephano de Wolaston, Willielmo de eâdem, Willielmo Godfrey de Bilintone, et aliis. Datum apud Sanctum Thomam die Martis, in vigiliâ Sancti Matthei Apostoli A. R. Regis Edwardi tricesimo (Philipps' MS. 7900.)

Omnibus &c., Philippus,¹ filius domini Philippi de Chetwynd, filii domini Johannis de Chetwynd, salutem. "Noverit universitas vestra me concessisse, remisisse, &c., domino Ricardo, Priori Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, totum jus et clamium meum quod habui, vel aliquo modo habere potui, in illas quatuor virgatas terre, cum omnibus suis pertinentiis, in Abbeton, quas dominus Philippus de Mutton, consanguineus meus, dedit cuidam Nicholao, quondam priori domus predictæ, et ejusdem loci conventui, &c. Hiis testibus: Domino Roberto de Staundon, Willielmo de Stafford, Willielmo de Mere, militibus, Henrico de Verdon, Rogero de Verdon, Johanne de Cotes, et aliis. (Chetwynd Chartulary.)

ESSEBURNE (ASHBOURNE).²

It appears from an entry in the Hundred Rolls of 3 E. I. (1275 A.D.) that a certain Hospital for the sick, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, existed at Ashburne (Derbyshire), and was endowed with a toll there. "Robertus de Ferrariis, qui nunc est, vi et tempore guerre (*i.e.*, during the Barons' wars)" cepit dictum tolnetum, et dedit Priori Sancti Thome juxta Stafford, qui quidem Prior feofavit Ricardum Hervei de dicto tenemento pro x solidis per annum." (Hundred Rolls, 3 E. I., p. 298.)

BERKESWICH (AL. BASWICH).

1. "*Ex dono Johâs de Burghill, Ep. Cov. et Lichf., advocat. ecclie de Berkeswich.*"
2. "*Ex dono Simonis Coci totam terram suam de Stokes (Stocton), juxta Berkleswich.*"
3. "*Ex dono W. Epî Cov. et Lichf. totam terram de Stokes, in manerio suo de Berkswich.*"³

PHILIPPS' MS. 7901 (CIRCA 1199 A.D.).

Galfridus,⁴ Dei gratiâ Coventri. ecclesie humilis minister, omnibus has literas visuris vel audituris salutem. Noverit universitas vestra nos dedisse, &c., dilecto et fideli servienti nostro Simoni Coco, pro homagio et servicio suo, totam terram⁵ quæ dicitur "Mile-welle-hull" inter "Bradewey" et "Fox-holewei," usque ad capud quod dicitur "Underwode," cum omnibus pertinentiis

¹ This Philip de Chetwynd died in 35 E. I.; his mother was Isabella, granddaughter and heir of Sir Adam de Mutton (*vide* Chetwynd Pedigree), and niece of Philip de Mutton named in the Charter.

² The Priory must have retained the property, for the dissolution schedule of their estates mentions 13s. 4d. rent at Ashburne.

³ Nos. 1 and 3 are additions to the earlier schedule of the "St. Thomas'" property. If *W. Epi. Cov.* is the correct reading, it would represent William de Carnhull, Bishop from 1215-23 A.D. But ought it not to be "G. Epi. Cov." (?) (*vide* deed following).

⁴ Geoffrey de Muschamp.

⁵ N.B.—This land is in Stocton or Stokes.

suis. Tenend., &c., in feodo et hereditate sibi et heredibus suis cum omnibus, &c. Reddendo annuatim nobis et successoribus nostris, pro omni servicio et demanda, sex denarios ad quatuor terminos in manerio nostro *de Berleswiche* constitutos, &c. Hiis testibus: Roberto de Sireford, tunc Episcopi senescallo, Thoma de Brocton, Ada de Brocton, Alured de Brocton, Willielmo filio Culward, Johanne de Broctun, Anselmo de Haiwod, Reinero clerico, Johanne et Nicholao, camerariis nostris, Roberto Ruffo, Henrico de Roale, Henrico de Langedon, et multis aliis.

Omnibus Xti fidelibus, &c., Johannes Burghill, p. d. Covent. et Lichf. Epūs, salutem, "Cum excellentissimus in Xto. princeps, et dominus, Henricus Dei gratiā Rex Ang. et Franc., et dominus Hibernie, illustris, de suā gratiā speciali per litteras suas patentes concesserit, et licentiam dederit, pro ipso et heredibus suis quantam in ipso est. Episcopo Cestrensi quod ipse advocacionem vicarie ecclesie prebendalis de Berkeswiche dare possit, et concedere, Priori⁶ et conventui Sancti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, habend. et tenend. eisdem Priori et conventui et successoribus in perpetuum, &c. Nos vero Johannes Episcopus antedictus, prehabito tractatu cum capitulis nostris Covent. et Lich. diligenter, &c., super concessione advocacionis dicte Vicarie de Berkeswiche dictis religiosis viris Priori et conventui, &c., &c., ut nos unam pensionem annuam viginti denariorum de eādem vicariā ratione indemnitatis nostri, &c. Fratre Thoma tunc Priore, &c. Datum in castro nostro de Eccleshall, vicesimo tercio die Septem. anno R. Regis Henrici quarti post conquestum nono (9 H IV., 1407 A.D.).

BILLINGTON.

"Ex dono Rādi, domini de Dulverne, terras in Billington."

Sir Ralph⁶ Dulverne, Knight, gives to the church and canons regular of St. Thomas five selons of land in Billington, with a piece of ground belonging to the headland once held by Walter son of William in Billington. These witnesses: Sir Robert de Essington,⁶ Sir John de Acton, Knights, Adam⁷ son of Godfrey of Billington, Harvey Bagod of the same, John, son of John, John the Carpenter, Walter son of William, &c. (Philippe MS. 7986.)

BLITHFIELD.

"Ex dono Jacobi de Blithfield quemdam boscum in Blithfield, vocatum 'le Frith.'"

S. p. et. f. quod ego James (*sic*) de Blithfeld dedi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Scti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, et canonicis regularibus, &c., pro salute anime mee et meorum antecessorum et successorum, in puram, &c., elemosinam quemdam boscum in Blithfeld, qui apellatur "*Le Frith*," cum omnibus pertinentiis suis infra has divisas contentum videlicet, in longum per viam regiam que ducit a Blithfeld usque Stafford, et a predictā viā directeu sique

⁵ Thomas Swineshead being then Prior.

⁶ Ralph de Dulverne, Rob. de Essington, and John de Acton occur, all three together, in *Plea Roll of November, 1227* (12 H. III.); vide "*Staffordshire Historical Collections*, Vol. IV., pp. 47 and 48. A Ralph de Dulverne is defendant in a suit of 1253 A.D. Vide "*Final Concords*," "*Staffordshire Historical Collections*," Vol. IV., p. 224. (We might date this grant between 10 and 30 K. H. III. (?).)

⁷ Adam son of Godfrey of Billington occurs, with his father, in the testing clause of a grant to Ronton ("*Staffordshire Historical Collections*," Vol. IV., p. 274), but no date is given, and that deed would probably be earlier, as Godfrey was living.

⁸ Every inquiry at Blithfield has failed to identify this wood, "*The Frith*." No such name occurs in the estate map, of about 100 years back.

ad assartum Swani fabri, et ab eodem assarto usque ad assartum Radulphi de Hampton, et ab eodem assarto usque ad assartum Nicholai de Hampton, et ab assarto dicti Nicholai usque ad assartum Roberti Pas, et ab assarto Roberti Pas usque ad campum de Blithfeld; et sic per eundem campum, sicut sepes vadit, usque ad prenominatam viam regiam. Tenendum et habendum libere, &c., sicut Ego James, vel aliquis antecessorum meorum eundem boscum aliquando liberius tenuit. Ita quidem quod sibi possint predictam terram "*del Frith*," cum bosco in waynagio¹ et quibuscunque aliis modis appruare; Si autem predicti Canonici predictum boscum defensum habere voluerint, propriis sumptibus et rationabili sepe debent eum includere et defendere. Predicti vero Canonici occasione illius tenementi nullam habebunt communam in feodo meo in Blithfeld, nec ego nec heredes mei, nec aliquis meorum, aliquod jus, clamium, vel communam in predicto tenemento ulterius habebimus, Preterea dedi, &c., prefatis canonicis sufficientem viam ad charrum et bigam, extendentem a dictâ viâ regiâ² in longum super foreram Wilmi filii Edrich de Blithfeld, usque in "*Wildredely*."³ (Usual warranty and seal.) Hiis Testibus: Dño Johanne de Acton, Dño Hugone Bagot de Bromley Dño Willielmoatre suo, Pagano de Wasteney, Waltero de Hagenegate, Hugone de Colton, Willielmo de Styphinton, et aliis.

(PHILIPPS' MS. 7894.)

Agreement dated 1253, between the Prior and Convent of St. Thomas on the one side, and Robert Rector of Blithfeld on the other, before Magister Robert then Archdeacon of Stafford and Magist^r. Rob. de Swineshead "*de novalibus de la Frithe*;" which they held of James de Blithfeld's gift, within the parish of Blithfeld. It appears the rector agreed to renounce them, and that they, for peace sake, agreed to pay to Blithfeld church one pound of wax on the day of the Assumption of the B. Virgin yearly for ever.

(1312 A.D.)

An agreement also exists between the Priory and Thomas rector of Blithfeld and others, de "*multiplicibus communis*." (The ink is faint and faded.) (Philipps' MS. 7894.)

NEWTON (IN BLITHFIELD).

"*Ex dono Hugonis, dñi de Weston, 1 virg. terre et quartam partem unius virg.; 2 messuag. et 2 croftos, cum liber. comun. pro 400 ovibus, 60 averiis, et 60 porcis, liber. a pannagio in "le Hurst" wood in Newton, in excambio pro oibus terris quas Prior Sancti Thome tenuit in Weston.*"

(ORIGINAL AT WESTON (B.M. ADD. MS. 18667, FOL. 53). 1257 A.D.)
COMMUNICATED BY COLONEL HUNTER-WESTON.

Sciaut presentes et futuri quod ego Hugo, dominus de Weston, dedi et concessi et hac presenti cartâ meâ confirmavi Niçho Priori Sancti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci canonicis, unam virgatam et quartam

¹ Waynagio means probably "skilled husbandry," Bishop Hobbhouse informs me.

² The "*Via regia*" here referred to must be the old highway, running through Lee Lane Farm, towards Colton, by the side of the modern road. It can be very easily traced until it joins the present road, not far above the "*Hamley*" corner. (The old road had gradually been worn down to such a depth that it was necessary to move it.)

³ Wilderly "*Barn*" still marks the position of this land, between Colton and Blithfeld, but in Colton parish.

⁴ Novalibus = probably some tithing claim on newly enclosed land. Frithe means a "*wood*."

partem unius virgate terre, duo messuagia cum edificiis et croftis ad illa messuagia pertinentibus, et omnibus aliis pertin. suis, et tribus placeis terre cum pertinentiis in Neuton. Scilicet messuagium et croftum et dimidiam virgatam terre cum pertin. que Ranulphus, fil. Hugonis aliquando tenuit, et messuagium et croftum et illam dimidiam virgatam terre, cum pertin. que Edricus Russell¹ aliquando tenuit, et quartam partem unius virgate terre, cum pertin. quam Robertus Kempe aliquando tenuit, et unam placeam terre, que vocatur "Longley" ab hesia Johannis de Neuthon in longitudine per viam vel ad boscum Jacobi de Blithefeld. et sic decedendo per boscum et tenementum dicti Jacobi usque ad ductum. Et sic per ductum usque hayam dicti Johannis, et sic per hayam usque ad hesiam predictam; Et aliam placeam prati et Wasti de Chalubullsford² extendentem ab hesia *de la Bolde*³ usque ad aquam de Blithe, et sic decedendo usque ad capud inferius dicti prati, et sicam dictorum pratorum usque ad vetus fossatum, et per vetus fossatum usque ad crucem. Salvâ tamen transeuntibus via que ducit apud Caluhull; Et terciam placiam in bosco meo de la Hurst⁴ que se extendit de veteri ponte per vetus fossatum juxta viam usque ad sicheum, et sic decedendo linealiter usque ad hayam de *Paluhull*: "De quibus placeis idem Prior, et successores sui proficuum suum cum suis supervesturis quibuscumque modis facient pro voluntate ipsorum sine ullo impedimento mei, vel alicujus heredum meorum. Tenend. et habend. eidem Priori et successoribus suis, et ecclesie sue Sancti Thome, in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosinam quiete ab omni seculari servicio, secta curie, consuetudine, exactione in perpetuum. Et Ego Hugo et heredes mei Warrantizabimus et defendemus eidem Priori et successoribus suis, et ecclesie sue predictae, predicta messuagia cum edificiis, terram, et placiam cum pertinentiis ut liberam puram et perpetuam elemosinam in omnibus rebus et locis contra omnes homines in perpetuum.

Dedi et concessi dicto Priori, et ecclesie sue predictae, dimidiam virgatam terre cum pertinentiis in eadem villâ, quam Adam, filius Susanne, aliquando tenuit, et homagium et servicium Hugonis Radulphi de toto tenemento quod idem Hugo prius tenuit de me in Neuthon, cum wardis, reliviis et omnibus aliis rebus pertin., et commodis que mihi, vel alicui heredum meorum, de dicto Hugone, vel aliquo heredum suorum, vel de ipsa terra vel aliqua sui parte aliquo modo incidere possint vel evenire. Habend. et tenend. eidem Priori, et successoribus suis, et ecclesie sue predictae, de me et heredibus meis in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam in perpetuum, libere et quiete pacifice integre cum omnibus asiamentis et libertatibus et liberis communis in boscis, in planis, in viis, in semitis, in aquis, in brueris, marlariis, ad dictam villam pertinentibus. Reddendo inde annuatim sex denarios ad festum Sancti Michaelis apud Neuton: Et faciendo inde regale servicium quantum pertinet ad unam virgatam terre de eodem feudo in eadem Villâ: Videlicet pro illâ dimidiâ virgatâ terre quam Adam filius Susanne, de me tenuit, et pro illâ dimidiâ virgatâ terre quam Hugo, filius Ranulfi, de me tenuit, in eadem villâ, pro omni servicio, sectâ Curie, consuetudine et exactione. Ita quidem quod nec ipse, nec aliquis successorum suorum, nec aliquis tenencium ipsorum de Neuton, ad curiam meam, vel ad curiam alicujus heredum meorum ratione delicti

¹ It is very probable that "Edric Russell" was the ancestor of a family of yeomen long seated in this parish, one of whom, Thomas Russell, became a London citizen, and in 1589 A.D. left a "bread" charity to Colton and Blithfield parishes.

² Chalubullsford is clearly a mistake for "Callohillford," because Caluhull, the modern "Callowhill," mentioned a few lines further on, is separated from the "Bold" (or Booth), by the river Blithe. (*Vide* Ordnance Survey.)

³ The "Bold" (now called the "Booth") lands passed to Colonel Levett, by marriage between his family and the Bagots. The name has only been changed within the last century.

⁴ The "Hurst" still keeps its name as "Newton Hurst."

⁵ "Paluhull" is a similar misreading of "Caluhill."

vel secte, vel aliqua alia occasione ullatenus accedat. Dedit etiam predicto Priori, et successoribus suis, et ecclesie sue predicte, communam totius pasture tenementi mei de Neuton, tam in bosco quam in plano, ad quatuor centum oves, et sexaginta averia, et sexaginta porcos, qui quieti erunt de pannagio singulis annis in bosco meo de le "Hurst." Et predictam pasturam ad equos quot-quot habuerint: Et quod possint etiam fodere turbas, et asportare pro quilt (qualibet?) dimidia virgata predicte terre per unicum diem dimidium. Et pro predicta Noka secundum quantitatem eidem pertinentem. Concessi etiam dicto Priori, et ecclesie sue predicte quod omnes tenentes ipsius, et successorum suorum, de Neuton habeant in perpetuum in eisdem pasturis communem palleam, ad omnimoda averia sua, et pec(t)ora, exceptis capris, et omnes porcos suos quietos de pannagiis in dicto bosco meo de "le Hurst," sine impedimento, seu contradictione mei, vel heredum meorum: salvis tamen mihi, et heredibus meis, defensis meis, scilicet illis boscis, qui vocantur "Hampton-wood,"¹ et le "*Mulnemer*" singulis temporibus in quibus prefatus Prior et successores sui, et homines sui de Neuton, non communicabunt dum sufficienter claudantur. Et similiter salva mihi, et heredibus meis, tota illa Morâ que vocatur "*Roumore*" in qua dictus Prior, et successores sui, et homines sui de Neuton, non communicabunt; nisi prius blada asportata et fena levata, sed in seccone nullo modo: excepto etiam seccone in bosco meo, qui vocatur "le Hurst" quercum col(y)urorum albarum spinarum. Salvis tamen supradictis Priori, et successoribus suis, et ecclesie sue predicte, dictis tribus placeis, cum suis supervesturis ad placitum suum inde faciend. Et salva mihi aqua stagni veteris molendini cum piscaria ipsius. Et Ego vero Hugo, et heredes mei omnia prenomina predicto Priori, et successoribus suis, integre tenenda Warrantizabimus, adquietabimus, et defendemus contra omnes mortales in perpetuum. Pro hiis autem donationibus et concessionibus, dederunt et concesserunt et quiete clamaverunt mihi, et heredibus meis, prefatus Prior et ecclesie sue Canonici totas terras et tenementa que habuerunt de me, vel de aliquo alio in villa de Weston, die quo hec carta facta fuit, videlicet die Martis proximo ante nativitatem Sancti Johannis Baptiste, Anno regni Regis Henrici, filii Regis Johannis, quadragesimo primo; sine ullo retenemento tam in Dominicis quam in serviciis, et rebus aliis. Et videlicet servicium et homagium Henrici de Bosco de Weston et heredum suorum. . . . de dimidia virgata terre quam de dictis Priore et Canonici, tenuit in Weston, cum wardia, releviis, eschaetis, et omnibus aliis rebus et commodis, que sibi et successoribus suis de Henrico, vel de aliquo heredum suorum, vel de ipso tenemento vel aliqua sui parte aliquo modo incidere possit, vel evenire. In cuius rei testimonium Ego Hugo, et prefati Prior et Canonici alterius scriptis penes nos alternatim residentibus signa nostra apposuimus. Hiis testibus: Dño Johanne de Acton, Philippo le Poyer, Hugone de London, Thomâ de Bromsulf, Willielmo de Acton, Willielmo de Ipstanes, Thomâ de Tresel, Roberto de Hutesdon, Radulpho de Hampton, Roberto filio Johannis de Admundeston, Thomâ de la Lee, Willielmo, Ricardo, Hugone de eadem. (41 H. III.)

For a Fine levied 25th June, 1257, A.D., see "Feet of Fines," "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 249. (G. W.)

Indenture between Nicholas, Prior of Saint Thomas, and the convent; and Roger Del Boolde² and Joanna his wife. The Prior and convent grant them two pieces of pasture at Newton, called "Caldeford," and "Hildeparrek" for

¹ "Hampton" survives in "Hampton Dale," near the "Dairy," at Blithfield.

² The mill referred to here must be the existing mill in Blithfield Park.

³ The "Bold" was originally a small cluster of houses, formerly accounted a member of Newton, subsequently reputed a distinct manor. (*Vide* Chetwynd's "Pirehill.") It lies due north of Newton, and is bordered on the east by the river Blythe. (*Vide* Ordnance Survey.)

their lives; to dig and plant them at their own cost, for a yearly rent of eleven shillings, payable at the "Annunciation" and at Michaelmas. Given at St. Thomas, on the Saturday next after the Feast of Saint Valentine the martyr (11 R. II. (A.D. 1388).) (Philippe' MS. No. 7294.)

CALLOW HILL [NEWTON].

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Walterus de Kalewhull dedi et concessi et hac presenti cartâ meâ confirmavi, Deo et ecclesie Beati Thome martyris juxta Stafford, et canonicis regularibus ibidem Deo servientibus, pro salute anime mee et meorum antecessorum et successorum, in puram, &c., elemosinam, redditum quatuor denariorum annuatim die Ascensionis Domini apud Sanctum Thomam de terrâ meâ de "Kalewhull," in perpetuum solvend. Ego vero Walterus, et heredes mei, vel quicumque dictam terram meam de Kalewhull futuris tenuerunt temporibus et habuerunt predictum redditum, &c., warrantizabimus et ut hec, &c. (Seal.) Hiis testibus: Roberto filio Galfridi de Drengton, Thomâ de la Lee, Willielmo de la Lee, Hugone de la Lee, Roberto le Chaun, Johanne le Bret, Ricardo le Waleys, et aliis. (S.D., and early) (Philippe' MS. 7989.)

Nicholaus Prior S. Thome, &c., Rogero, filio Ricardi de Newton messuagium in Newton quod Ranulfus, filius Aldithy, tenuit juxta placeam Willielmi, filii Jacobi, et Hugonis de Weston; et pratum subter Hayam de "Berley," tend. a campo Ricardi Lutley, &c., et porciones medietatis crofti, quod Ranulfus Scaldich tenuit, et crofti quod Johannes Warinarius tenuit. (B.M.)

BISHOPESTON.

Hugo de Loges, assensu Margarete uxoris mee, &c., Deo et Sancti Thome ecclesie, &c., donacionem quam Robertus de Brock¹ eis dedit, scilicet terram de Bishopeston. (Circa Ric. I. or John.) (B.M.)

BRADELEY.

"Ex dono Willielmi Wymer, et aliorum, diversas terras in Bradeley et Shradicote."

(CIRCA 1265-70 A.D.)

Omnibus h. p. literas visuris, vel audituris, Radulphus Wymer, filius Willielmi Wymer de Stafford, salutem. "Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse, &c., fratri Nicholao priori Scti Thome, et canonicis, &c., totam placeam illam terre cum pertinentiis in manerio de Bradeley, quam habui ex dono Willielmi "le Moyne," jacentem juxta terram Magistri Robti de Shradicote, tendentem in longum a terrâ dicti Prioris, &c., versus "Mutton." Tenendam et habendam, &c. Reddendo annuatim mihi, et successoribus meis, unum par albarum cerothecarum, ad festum Omnium Sanctorum, et acquietando me et heredes meos versus dominum Robertum de Stafford, et heredes suos, de dimidiâ marcâ argenti annuatim, videlicet de xl denarios ad Pascham et de xl denarios ad festum Scti Michaelis pro omni seculari servitiis, &c. Pro hac dederunt mihi sexaginta marcas argenti. (Warranty and Seal.) Hiis testibus: Magistro Ada de Phileby,² Philippo le Poyer, dñõ Wmõ Bagoth, Thoma de Bromsulf, Ricardo Toly, Ricardo filio ejus, Hamone de Belgreve (?) clerico, Robtõ le Hore, Waltero Hanegate, Robto de Draycoth. (7909 P.M.)

¹ See "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., p. 185. Hugh de Loges' wife was the daughter of Robert de Brok, Forester of Cannock.

In 1199 A.D., Robert son of Stephen sued the Prior of St. Thomas for one virgate of land in Bishopeston. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III. p. 53.) The same suit is mentioned five years later. The rent was five shillings.

² This must have been the Adam de P. who was sub-dean of St. Mary's, Stafford. Philip le Poer was a Canon. (Vide "Whitgreave Deeds.")

Universis Xti fidelibus, &c., Dñs Robertus de Stafford salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse, &c., Nicholao Priori Scti Thome, et ejus loci canonicis, in liberam, &c., elemosinam decem acras terre de mensurâ, cum pertinentiis suis, jacentes in la Lee de Bradeley, juxta terram Magistri Roberti de Shradicote,¹ quam habuit ex donacione meâ infra eandem placeam, tendentes ab unâ culturâ Magistri Roberti per stachia (*sic*) sicut figuntur ad aliam culturam ejusdem Magistri Roberti. Habendas, &c., sibi, &c., cum libero accessu et recessu ad carandum, &c. Dedi etiam eisdem Priori et conventui et ecclesie sue predictæ tres marcas sterlingorum annui redditus de decem marcis firme illorum molendinorum, que Willielmus Wymer tenet de me in Stafford, precipiendas de eodem Wmo Wymer et de ejus heredibus, &c., vel a quibuscunque qui dictum molendinum tenuerint, ad duos anni terminos. Tenend, &c., tam dictam terram quam p'dictum redditum in lib. p. et perpetuam elemosinam, &c., et Ego, &c. (Warranty and Seal.) Hiis testibus: Magistro Ada de Fileby, Dño Ada Wymer, Phō le Poyer, Hugone de Lundon, Tho. de Bromsulf, Willo de Acton, Stephano Aurifabro de Stafford, Robto le Hore, Willo de Pencriz, clerico, Roberto de Hanyate, Roberto de Wiston, et aliis.—Phillips' MS. 7909.)

Accepted in another deed by the said William Wymer, and the Prior, and Robert de Stafford, and sealed by them in presence of the same witnesses. (Phillips' MS. 7909.)

Sciunt p. et f. quod Ego Ricardus Morice de Stafford pro salute anime mee, et anime Rosee uxoris mee, &c., dedi Deo et glorioso Martyri Thome et ecclesie sue juxta Stafford, et Priori et canonicis ibidem, &c., in liberam, &c., elemosinam quadraginta acras terre, cum pertinentiis, quas habui ex dono Dñi Roberti de Stafford in "Luttewode;" Ita plene sic continetur in cartâ quam habui ex donacione Dñi Roberti de Stafford. Tenendas, &c. Reddendo Robto de Stafford dimidiam marcam argenti. Hiis testibus: Magistro Ada de Phileby, Philippo le Poyer, Hugone de London, Willielmo de Acton, Thoma de Bromshulf. Pro hac autem donacione, &c., p'dictus Prior, et conventus, in perpetuum invenient unum capellanum divina spallentem (Psallentem) ad altare Martyris Scti Thome, pro animabus nostris, et antecessorum et successorum meorum, de Fratribus suis. (7909.)

BROCTON (BETWEEN MILFORD AND BEDNALL).

Omnibus Xti fidelibus presens scriptum visuris, vel audituris, Avicia, quondam uxor Petri de Brocton, salutem, &c. Noverit universitas vestra me in viduitatis mee legiâ potestate remisisse et quietum clamasse Fratri Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome m. juxta Stafford, et ejusdem &c., totum jus quod habui, vel habere potui, in totâ parte meâ, prati quod habui nomine dotis in "Smithemore." Tenendum, &c., in perpetuum. (Seal.) Hiis testibus: Simone domino de Acton, Willielmo de eadem, Nicholao de Bedinhall, Henrico de Colton, et aliis. (Phillips' MS. 8055.). Circa 1272. A.D. (?).

BUBINGTON (*i.e.*, BUBEDENE,² DERBYSHIRE).

Ex dono Galfridi de Greslegh, mil., 10 solidos ann. redditus de Molendino de Bubinton."

Galfridus³ de Gresley, miles, dilecto et consanguineo suo, et amico, Olivero⁴

¹ Shradicote is in the parish of Bradeley.

² Bubedene was an Episcopal manor in Derbyshire, and Longford an appendage of it at the date of the Survey. (See "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. II., pp. 69 and 70.)

³ Geoffrey de Gresley's gift was probably about 6 E. I.

⁴ Oliver son of Nigel de Longford, deceased previous to 12 E. I. The "de Longfords" were a junior branch of the "Gresleys." ("Staffordshire Historical

domino de Longeford. Noverit discretio vestra me dedisse, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., redditum decem solidorum quos solebam precipere annuatim de molendino vestro de Bubindon. Testibus: Domino Willielmo de Kaverswall, Philippo de Chetwynd, militibus, &c. (Walter Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

Galfridus de Gresley, miles, dedi, &c., Nicholao Priori Sancti Thome, pro salute anime mee et Agnetis uxoris mee, decem solidos annui redditus precipiendos de Olivero de Langeford, filio Nigelli de Langeford, de exitibus molendini de Bobendone, &c. (Walter Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

6 E. I. Galfridus de Greslegh, Dominus de Mortun, recepi de domino Ricardo (Nicholao ?)¹ Priori de Sancti Thome, quandam cartam in qua continetur quod Johannes de Bakepuz, cum assensu Roisie uxoris sue, dedit Willielmo de Gresley cum Elizabetha² filia sua in libero maritaggio 20 solidos annui redditus in molendino de Bobindon, &c. (Walter Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

BUSHBURY.

"Ex dono Henrici dñi de Bushbury advocationem Eccleie de Bushbury."

(1353 A.D.)

Pateat universis per presentes me Johannem de Sotton, militem, dominum de Duddeleye, concessisse et licentiam dedisse Fratri Roberto, Priori Sancti Thome m. juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, et successoribus suis, quod acquietare sibi possint de domino Radulpho, comite Stafford, domino de Tonebrugge, unum toftum, unam acram terre, et advocationem ecclesie de Bushbury cum pertinentiis in Bushbury, cum omnibus juribus et pertinentiis earum. Tenend. et habend. predictis Priori et Conventui et successoribus suis in liberam p. et perpet. elemosynam et in proprios usus dictam ecclesiam tenere, sine contradictione mei vel heredum meorum, in perpetuum. In cujus rei testimonium presentibus sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus: Dominis Thoma de Halughton, Hugone de Wrottesley, militibus, Willielmo de Peayton (some uncertainty about third and fourth letters), Johanne de Swinnerton, de Hulton, Willielmo le Champioun, et aliis. Datum apud Duddeleye, die Dominica proxima festum Sancti Cedde, episcopi; Anno regni Regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum, vicesimo sexto. (Phillips' MS. 7993.)

Bishop Roger de Norbury's Register ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., p. 283, and p. 139 a original) contains that prelate's sanction to the sale which had been effected in 1356 A.D., together with his mandate to put the Priory of St. Thomas in possession.

Inquis. ad quod damnum, 24 E. III. (S. 4). "Radulphus comes Stafford dedit Priori Sancti Thome juxta Stafford unam acram terre in Bishbury, cum advocatione ecclesie et appropriatione."

CAVERSWALL.

"Ex dono Willm̃i de Caverswall advocationem eccl̃ie de Caverswall."

"Ex dono Willm̃i de Caverswall 2 messuagia et 2 croftos in Caverswall."

(CIRCA 1270 (?).)

"Willielmus dom̃. de Caverswall dedi, &c., Fratri Nicholao Priori de Scti Thome duo messuagia cum croftis in Kaverswall. Testibus: Dño Wño Collections," Vol. I., pp. 152 and 153, &c.) 53 H. III., 1269 A.D., Nigel de Longford gave Elizabeth widow of William de Gresley 10s. yearly out of Bubington Mill. (Walter Chetwynd.)

¹ Ought not this to be Nicholas? (Vide Roll of Priors of St. Thomas.)

² Elizabeth de Bakepuz was the mother of Geoffrey de Gresley; she sued as the widow of William de Gresley in 40 H. III. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 132; and Gresley Pedigree.)

Wyther, Dño Phō de Draycote, Dño (?) Willmō Coyne." (Walter Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

"Robertus de Caverswall, filius Roberti, et Willmō frater ejus, dedimus 6 solidos sterlingorum Deo et ecclesie Scti Thome. Hiis testibus: Dño Roberto de Caverswall, dño Willmō Meverell, Waltero de Hanyate." (Walter Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

Omnibus Xti fidelibus p. scriptum visuris vel auditoris, Dominus Willielmus de Kaverswelle salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse concessisse, &c., pro me et heredibus meis Nicholao Priori Sancti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui et eorum successoribus, in liberam, &c., elemosinam, pro animā meā, et animabus antecessorum et successorum meorum, unam placeam terre in territorio de Kaverswelle subtus le "Roug" croft (?), jacentem in longitudine aque que vocatur Bliye, et extendit se usque croftum quod fuit Normanni plumbarii, cum domibus super edificatis, et cum advocacione ecclesie de Kaverswell, quam quidem ecclesiam liceat eisdem et suis successoribus in proprios usus in perpetuum optinere, sine clamio vel contradictione mei vel meorum. Concessi et eisdem et suis liberum passagium ultra stagnum novi vivarii mei, et viam competentem ab altā viā que procedit per mediam villam de Kaverswall inter gardinum meum et domum que fuit Thome prepositi ultra dictum stagnum usque ad terram dictorum Prioris et conventūs, eundi, redeundi, cum bigā, quadrigā, et omnimodis . . . alibus suis, omnia alia necessaria sua per eandem faciendi que sibi viderint expedire, sine contradictione seu impedimento mei, vel meorum, in perpetuum. Habend. et tenend. p. me et heredibus meis aibi et successoribus suis in liberam, &c., elemosinam, cum omnibus libertatibus in perpetuum et Ego Dominus Willielmus de Kaverswell, &c. [Warranty and seal.] Hiis testibus: Thoma de Lee, Johanne de Cocton, Hamundo clerico, et Abo (Albino ?) de Drengeton, et aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7939.)

Sciant p. et f. quod Ego Willielmus Cocus de Kareswalle, dedi, &c., fratri Nicho Priori S. Thome m. juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, quandam placeam terre in territorio de Kareswelle quam habui ex dono Domini Willielmi de Kareswalle, cum fossatis que in circuitu ejus fuerunt, et cum quibusdam placeis terre in circuitu dictorum fossatorum. Videlicet totam terram cum fossatis que jacet inter culturam, quam habui ex dono dicti Dñi Willielmi, et viam que ducit a villā de Kareswalle versus le Mere, et inter aquam de Blithe et verticem montis que vocatur "Louecokeshull," cum ductu aque per terram meam ab aquā de Blithe usque in fossatum suum predictum. Tenend. et habend. dictis Priori et Conventui, et successoribus suis, libere, &c., in perpetuum pro excambio terre, videlicet pro totā terrā suā de "Wrendegorst," quam mihi dederunt, et pro duabus acris terre quas Dñs Willielmus de Kareswalle mihi dedit. Et ego et heredes mei. (Usual warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Dño Willielmo de Kareswalle, Johanne Coyne, Willielmo filio Roberti, Henrico de Karswell, Willielmo Coyne, Hugone de Fotesbroke, et aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7939.)

Richard Prior of St. Thomas, and Convent, grant to Walter Wade of Kareswell all that piece of land inclosed with a trench which Richard Wade his father formerly held of them, to hold to Walter and Margaret his wife for life of each of them, paying a rent of 2s. in silver at two terms in the year, 12d. at Lady Day, and 12d. at Michmas. These witnesses: Richard son of William de Kareswell, William (much defaced, but looks like) Olot (?) de Karswell, John de Glasleye of the same, Henry in the Lane, and others. Done at Karswell, at Xmas, 1325 A.D. (Philipps' MS.)

CHARLTON.

"Ex dono Roberti¹ de Swineshead,² messuagium suum, et omnes terras in Cherleton³ et Swineshead."

"Ex dono Johis, filii Elie de Cherleton, quoddam messuagium, cum gardino et curtilagio in villâ de Cherleton."

(1272 A.D.)

Omnibus hominibus liberis visuris vel audituris Frater Nicholaus, Prior Sancti Thome m. juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventus, salutem in Domino eternam. Noverit universitas vestra nos concessisse, et presenti scripto, pro nobis et successoribus nostris, confirmasse, Thome de Wulverdistone, Ade de Swyneahed, Johanni filio Helie de Cheston (Cherleton f), et ceteris liberis hominibus de Cherleton et de Chaledun, quod libere et quiete habeant sine impedimento nostri, &c., sibi et heredibus suis, omnes terras in bosco de Radwode,⁴ et wasto de Cherleton de quibus appruatæ fuerunt ante diem Sabbati in crastino Sancti Johannis Baptist, An^o Domini 1273. Habend. et tenend. sine inquietacione nostri, vel successorum nostrorum, salvâ nobis et successoribus nostris communia pasture intra predictas terras per tot. post fena levata et blada asportata, &c. (I E. I.). (B.M.)

Willielmus de Chetewynd, Viviano filio suo salutem, &c., totum illud messuagium quod emi de Priore et conventu Sancti Thome in villâ de Cherleton, quod fuit quondam Elie de Cherleton, &c. (Walter Chetwynd.)

CHAVERNES.

[This deed is almost destroyed, full of large holes, and the writing worn out in many places.]

Noverint universi per presentes quod ego Henricus Saucheverill de Northwood dedi concessi et presenti cartâ meâ confirmavi fratri Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui homagium et servicium unius marce . . . etiam forinsecum servicium Reginaldi de Chavernes, filii Johannis quondam domini de Chavernes et heredum suorum de omnibus . . . et omnibus aliis serviciis et rebus que dictus Johannes de me tenuit in villâ de Chavernes, cum wardis, releviis, escaetis . . . salvo forinseco servicio Domini Regis. Et ego Henricus, et heredes mei, &c. (Usual warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: . . . de Kaverswall, Philippo de Draycot, militibus, Radulpho de Burgo, . . . Ricardo de Draycot, Ricardo de la Lee . . . et aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7982.)

Omnibus, &c., Henricus Saucheverill de Northunod (i.e., Northwood), salutem. Noveritis quod cum homag. et servic. Reginaldi filii Johannis de Charnes in quibus mihi pro villâ de Charnes quam de me tenuit, tenebat (sic) Fratri Nicholao Priori Sancti Thome et ejusdem loci conventui in liberam puram et perpetuam eleemosynam dedissem, volo, et pro heredibus meis concedo, quod dictus Reginaldus et heredes sui p'dicto Priori et successoribus suis homagia faciant que idem Reginaldus, et antecess. sui, mihi et antecessoribus suis in villâ de Charnes facere consueverunt. (Walter Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

Omnibus, &c., Nicholaus Prior de S. Thome juxta Stafford, &c., salutem. Noveritis quod cum Henricus Sauchverill homagium et servic. Reginaldi de

¹ Swineshead is in Eccleshall.

² Robert, son of Robert de Swineshead, occurs in 1269 A.D. The donor here was probably his father.

³ Cherleton or Chorlton also lies near Eccleshall, and was held of the Bishop.

⁴ Radwood is to the west-north-west of Cherleton.

Charnes¹ et heredum suorum, &c., concess. nobis et success. nostris, &c., volumus et pro nobis et success. nostris, &c., quod p'dictus Reginaldus et heredes sui immunes sint de omnimod. sect. curie nostre, &c. Hiis testibus: Dom. Hugone de Hernovile tunc vice-comite de Stafford, Roberto de Staundon, Radulpho Basset, Rogero de Puylesdon, Radulpho de Wasteneys, Thomá de Peshall, et multis aliis. (Walter Chetwynd's MS. Notes, e Cartis Willi Younge.)

A French deed, granting the wardship and marriage of Christian, daughter and one of the heiresses of William de Charnes, son and heir of Reginald de Charnes, to Richard Prior of St. Thomas, from Ralph de Grendon. Done at Gayton (1 E. III.). (Walter Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

[Sealed with Grendon arms: "Within a bordure engrailed sable, on a field argent, two chevrons gules."]

CHARTELEY.

"En dono Roberti Ferrars, Comitis Derb., quandam placeam bosci et more vocatam Starmore, in manerio de Chartley."

(PHILLIPS' MS. 7917.)

Sciant p. et f. quod Ego Robertus de Ferrariis, Comes Derb., dedi, &c., Fratri Nicholao Priori Scti Thome m. juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, quandam placeam bosci et more que vocatur "Sterremore" in manerio de Certeley, cum suá supervesturá et pertinentiis suis intra has divisas subscriptas contenta, que incipiunt ad capud superius fossati Thome Meverel per hayam usque le "Holdhallesende," et de "Holdhallestude" per campum de "Holdhallefeld" usque "Huxenhallewalle," et de "Huxenhallewalle" per campum de Ambreton, qui vocatur "Emdelowe," usque "Ffoulclowe," cum latitudine octo pedum terre mee extra dictam hayam inter pratum meum et ipsam hayam, cum suá supervesturá. Tenendam et habendam dictis Priori, et Conventui, et proximo priori suo succedenti, et suo conventui, in quacumque statu dicti duo priores permanent ad totam vitam ipsorum duorum Priorum, libere, &c., et pacifice cum omnibus liberatibus, communis, asiamentis ad dictam terram spectantibus intra manerium de Certeley et extra, cum viâ competenti descendente de le "Stowe" usque "Wulphonglys," et de "Wulphonglys" directe usque ad ductum descendente de molendino de Certeley, et sic, ab ipse ductu, usque ad Bercariam que fuit Ricardi Parcarii, et sic ab ipsâ Bercariâ usque in "Sterremore" de latitudine octodecim et unius dimidii pedis tempore non aperto extra dictam viam ubicunque voluerint cum libero et quieto transitu ad dictam placeam eundo, et redeundo, ad cariand. et averia qualiacumque fugand., et cetera omnimoda necessaria sua facienda. Liceat et predictis Prioribus et Conventui predictam placeam in defensum singulis temporibus tenere, et proficium suum assartando, colendo, superedificando, et aliis quibuscumque modis voluerint, facere; Reddendo inde annuatim mihi, heredibus vel assignatis meis, ad totam vitam predictorum duorum Priorum viginti duos solidos, et tres denarios, videlicet undecim solidos, denarium et obolum ad festum B. Marie Virginis in Marcio, et undecim, &c., ad festum Scti Michaelis, pro omni servicio, &c., et pro omnimodis rebus que ratione terre, seu tenementi, exigí poterint, &c. Pro hac autem, &c., dedit mihi predictus Prior Nicholaus viginti duas marcas, tres solidos, quatuor denarios argenti premanibus; Et Ego Robertus. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Dño Williemo de Caverswall, Philippo de Chetwynd, militibus, Thomá Meverell, Henrico Oweyn, Ricardo Spigurnell, Thomá Gervyse, Philippo de Melewz, Willielmo de Grenleye et aliis.

¹ "Kirkby's Quest" (E. I.) states that Reg. de Charnes held a quarter of a Knight's fee in Charnes of the Prior of St. Thomas ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., p. 153); the Prior holding of Nigel de Longford, and he of the Bishop.

Omnibus Xt fidelibus presens scriptum visuris vel audituris Robertus de Ferrariis, Comes Derb., salutem eternam in Dño. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse, &c., Fratri Nicholao Priori Scti Thome, &c., et ejusdem loci conventui, Willm de Huttesdon filium Willi clerici de Huccesdon nativum meum, in liberam, puram, &c., elemosinam cum totâ sequelâ suâ, et omnibus catallis suis. Tenendum Priori, &c., sine contradictione, &c., mei, meorum et heredum, sicut aliqua elemosina plenius et liberius dari potuit in perpetuum. (Usual warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Dño Philippo de Chetwynde, milite, Thoma Meverell, Riço parcario de Certeleye Nicholao de Ambreton, Robto de Huccesdon, Robto le Wite de eâdem, Ada clerico de eâdem, et aliis. (S.D.)

Sciant presentes et futuri quod nos Frater Ricardus de Hylderston, Prior Scti Thome juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventus, dedimus, &c., Henrico, filio Thome le Wodeward, de Certeleye, tres acras terre nostre in feodo de Certeleye, quarum due acre jacent super "Holdwellehull," inter terram dominicam dñi de Certeleye ex parte unâ, et terram tenencium domini predicti ex parte alterâ, et extendunt se super Hayam parvi parci ad unum capud, et ad aliud super "Moshadland" Willm Boydenell; et alia acra jacet super culturam que vocatur "Grenestoft," inter terram Ricardi le Parker ex utraque parte, et extendit se ad unum capud super le "Moswey,"² et ad aliud super terram Willi Boydenell. Tenendas, &c., de nobis, et successoribus nostris, sibi et heredibus suis de corpore suo legitime procreatis, libere, &c., cum omnibus aziamentiis, &c. Reddendo inde annuatim nobis et successoribus nostris duos solidos sterlingorum ad duos anni terminos, videlicet duodecim denarios, &c., pro omni servicio, salvo forinseco; et pro herietto ad decessum, vel recessum, cujuslibet tenementi dimidiam marcam "sterling" quotiescumque contigerit, cum vestura si qua fuerit. Et si predictus Henricus, vel heredes sui, in solucione dicti redditûs, seu heriotti, defecerint, licebit nobis, et successoribus nostris predictam terram, sine contradictione vel impedimento aliquo, ingredi, retinere, et pacifice in perpet. possidere. (1211.)

(1305 A.D.)

A similar deed occurs again among the Philipps' MSS.

"*Aldewallhull*" is the spelling here given. The only difference being in these witnesses' names (and the seal): Rogero de Aston, Magistro Roberto de Bromley, Willielmo de Breydeshulle, Galfrido de Warilowe, Willielmo Boydenell de Certeleye. "Datum apud Sanctum Thomam in Octab. Assumptionis B. Marie. Anno Gratie Millesimo ccc. quinto" (1005 A.D.).

(CIRCA 1263, 47 H. III.)

Omnibus has literas visuris vel audituris, Robertus de Ferariis, comes Derby, æternam in Domino salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse, concessisse, et hac presenti carta meâ confirmasse, fratri Nicholao Priori S. Thomæ martyris, juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, in liberam perpetuam et puram elemosinam, pro salute animæ meæ, et animabus Mariæ et Alianore uxorum mearum, et pro animabus antecessorum et successorum meorum omnium, unâ cum corpore meo, cum de me humanitus contigerit, apud S. Thomam sepeliendo, duo messuagia in villâ de Certeleye, in comitatu Stafford, cum xvii acris terræ; et advocatione ecclesie de la Stowe extra Certeleye, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis: videlicet unum messuagium quod Nicolaus Messor aliquando tenuit, juxta messuagium quod Rogerus filius Line aliquando tenuit ex opposito ulmi cum edificiis, gardinis, et hortis, ad dicta messuagia spectantibus, et xvii acris terræ, quarum una se extendit a gardino dicti messuagii quod Nicolaus Messor aliquando tenuit, &c. Tenenda et habenda

¹ Prior from 1295-1342.

² Chartley "Moss" lies east and by south of the Castle.

dictis Priori et conventui, et successoribus suis, in liberam, puram et perpetuam elemosinam, libere, quiete, &c. Hiis testibus: Dñs Johanne de Chetewinde, et Philippo de Chetewinde, militibus, Dño Reginaldo rectore ecclesie de Leyg; Thomá Meverell de Gayton, Radulpho de Momeye, Rogero de Mercinton, Ricardo Parcario de Certeley, &c., et aliis. ("Monasticon.")

Confirmed by John de Ferrers, son and heir of ye aforesaid Robert. Witnesses: Robert de Staundon, Thomas Meverell, Roger de Aston, &c. (Walter Chetwynd.)

M. 12, PATENT ROLLS, 12 E. II. (1318-19), S.L.

The King confirms the aforesaid charter of Robert de Ferrars, formerly Earl of Derby, to Nicholas Prior of St. Thomas, of 2 messuages in Charteley, and 17 acres of land and advowson of Church in Stowe.

(1284 A.D.)

Sciant presentes et futuri quod nos frater Nicolaus, Prior Sancti Thome m. juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventus, dedimus, &c., Nicholao filio Henrici de Ambrithon, clerico, quandam placeam bosci et more, que vocatur "Sterremore," continentem quadraginta quatuor acras et dimidiam per perticatam octodecim pedum et dimid. in manerio de Certeley, cum suâ supervesturâ et pertinenciis inter has divisas contentam que incipit ad capud superius fossati Thome Meverel per hayam usque le "Holdhallestude" et de le "Holdehallestude" per campum del Holdehallefeld usque "Holdehallowalle," et de "Holdehallowalle" per campum de Ambrinton qui vocatur "Hende Lowe" usque "Ffoule-scholve" cum latitudine octo pedum terre domini de Certeleye extra dictam haiam inter parcum (?) suum et ipsam haiam cum supervesturâ suâ. Tenend. "et habend." de nobis, et proximo priore nobis succedente, et suo conventu, eidem Nicholao et heredibus vel assignatis suis in qualicunque . . . nos et prior nobis immediate succeden . . . ad totam vitam meam et prioris nobis, &c., libere, &c., et cum omnibus communis et asiamentis ad dictam terram spectantibus, infra manerium de Certeleye vel extra, cum viâ competenti prout in scripto predictorum Prioris et Conventui continetur. Liceat etiam predicto Nicholao et heredibus suis, vel suis assignatis predictam placeam terre et more indefensum singulis temporibus anni tenere, et proficuum suum assartando, colendo, super-edificando et aliis quibuscunque modis voluerint inde facere. Reddendo inde annuatim Thome de Ferrars et heredibus suis ad totam vitam nostram, et Prioris nobis proxime succedentis, viginti duos solidos et tres denarios ad festum Sancti Michaelis et ad Annunciationem. Be. Marie pro equalibus porcionibus, et nobis et Priori nobis immediate succedenti dimidiam marcam ad festum Purificationis et ad festum Sancti Johis Baptist, &c., pro omnibus que ratione terre seu tenementi exigi poterint, seu excogitari ut exigantur. Pro hac autem donacione, &c., dedit nobis dictus Nicolaus viginti et unam marcas argenti premanibus. Nos autem dicti Prior et conventus. (Usual warranty and common seal of St. Thomas.) Hiis testibus: Magistro R. de Radeswell, Domino G. de Kirkebi, Roberto de Pipe, Thoma Meverell de Gayton, Ricardo Owen, Thoma Grym, Ricardo Parcario de Certeleye, Rogero ad le Pyrie de Ambrunton, Ada Jaumbe de eadem, et aliis. Datum apud Sanctum Thomam dominicâ quâ cantatur (uncertain) Anno 1284 A.D. (Philipps' MS. 7906.)

COLTON.

"Ex dono Willielmi de Wastneys, et aliorum, divers messuagia, terras, et tēta in Colton."

(CIRCA 1240-5 A.D.)

Willūs de Wasteneys¹ dedit Johanni le Bret, pro homagio et servicio

¹ Sir William de Wastneys was eldest son of Sir Philip. In 1219 A.D. we find the King allowed him to act for his father, during Sir Philip's absence in Scotland.

suo, 'Ca. vercroft,' quam Galfridus armiger tenuit; et pratum vocatum "Sollich-inge" ad "Firsowles," quod Robertus filius Matilde tenuit in villâ de Colton, &c. (B.M.)

Johæsa,¹ filius Walteri le Bret, Deo, et ecclie Scti Thome totam terram meam in Coltona, pro salute Emme uxoris mee "Calvercroft et Liching (Sollich-inge?) ad Fyvesoules." (B.M.)

Hugo,² filius Thome de Colton, Johi Bret totam partem meam de terra quæ fuit Gerardi avi mei juxta terram Johannis Britonis. (B.M.)

Hugo, filius Thome de Colton, Johi Brittoni totam partem meam de mara quæ fuit Gerardi, avi mei, versus domum dicti Johannis le Bret. (B.M.)

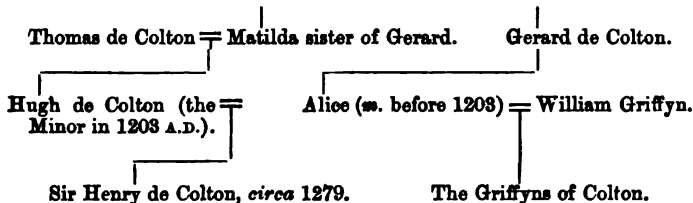
(CIRCA 1225 (?).)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Guarinus de Colton dedi, &c., Johanni filio meo, pro homagio et servicio suo, totam terram meam de "Lund" sub Colewall, quam tenui de domino meo Episcopo Coventri de manerio de Haywode: Habendam et tenendam sibi et heredibus suis de me et heredibus meis jure hereditario, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis libere, &c., cum omnibus libertatibus dicto manerio de Haywode pertinentibus. Reddendo inde annuatim mihi et heredibus meis de se et heredibus suis quatuor solidos argenti et quatuor denarios ad quatuor terminos, scilicet ad festum Sancti Andree tresdecim denarios, et ad festum Sancte Marie in Marcio tresdecim denarios, et ad festum Sancti Johannis Baptistæ tresdecim denarios, et ad festum Sancti Michaelis tresdecim denarios. Pro hac autem donacione, &c., dedit mihi quatuor marcas argenti. Ego vero Guarinus. (Usual warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Domino Galfrido de Gresley, Ada personâ de Colwich, Johanne clerico de Colwich, Henrico de Heiwode, Ricardo de Hopton, Willielmo Griffin de Colton, Hugone filio Thome ibidem, Waltero le Bret. (Philipps' MS. 7925).

Gaufridus,⁴ Dei gratiâ Coventrie ecclesie humilis minister, omnibus ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit salutem. Noverit universitas vestra nos dedisse, &c., Warino Griffin de Colton, et heredibus suis, pro homagio et servicio suo, totam terram ad "Lund," sub Colewele, quam Adam "le Wrathe" tenuit, et essartum sub eâdem Colewelle, juxta "Burneboc," quod Robertus carpentarius tenuit, et de incremento latitudinem quatuor acrum extra sepes predictarum terrarum, et longitudinem de essarto quod fuit Turkilli usque Burneboc, cum omnibus earum pertinentiis in manerio nostro de Heywode: tenendas et habendas sibi et heredibus suis de nobis et successoribus nostris, libere et quiete in bosco et plano, in pratis et pascuis, et omnibus libertatibus et asiamentis. Reddendo inde annuatim nobis, et successoribus nostris, pro

¹ The Bret family was a numerous one in Colton at this date; they were, at the least, superior yeomen. Warin Griffin's daughter married William le Bret.

² Hugh, son of Thomas de Colton, is more accurately described as "nephew on the mother's side" of Gerard de Colton. The pedigree stands thus:—



Gerard de Colton's family held the advowson and the manor adjoining the church.

³ The present "Lound" or "Lount," farm, now the property of Mr. Whitgreave, of Burton Manor, Stafford.

⁴ Bishop Geoffrey is Geoffrey de Muschamp, consecrated 21st June, 1198, ob. 6th October, 1208.

omni servicio, &c., quatuor solidos, ad quatuor terminos, scilicet, &c. (ut supra). Hiis testibus: Osberto senescallo, Thomá de Erdinton,¹ Philippo de Wastenai, Willielmo Griffin, Galfrido de Colton, Galfrido de Colewich, Rogero de Colewich, Ricardo de Bissopeston, Roberto Ruffo, Hugone Britone, Willielmo de Drengeton, Roberto Blundo, Henrico de Langedun, Nicholao Camerario, et multis aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7925.)

(1257 A.D.)

Among the Blithfield charters is a grant of land in Colton which mentions incidentally that the landowners of Colton, William de Wasteneys, William called the "young lord," Hugh son of Thomas, and William Griffyn de Colton, had given 1½ acres of waste land here to the "Prior and convent of St. Thomas." Hugh de Weston, Knight, and Ralph de Hampton are among the witnesses. (*Vide* History of Colton.)

(CIRCA 1230 A.D.)

Sciunt tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Johannes, filius Warini² de Colton, vendidi, et concessi, et quietam clamavi de me et heredibus meis, in perpetuum, Hugoni de Brossa totam terram quam pater meus et ego tenuimus de domino Coventri et Lichfeldensi Episcopo, infra manerium de Haywode. Tenendam et habendam in perpetuum, in feodo et hereditate, dicto Hugoni et heredibus suis, vel assignatis suis, &c., de Dño Alexandro³ Coventr. et Lichfeld. Epō, et successoribus suis, libere quiete honorifice, et pacifice, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis et libertatibus et esiammentis, et communia, in bosco et plano, in pratis et pascuis, in viis et semitis, in aquis et moris, et mariscia, et in omnibus locis ita plenarie et integre sicut eam unquam pater meus et ego plenius et integrius tenuimus, faciendo inde servicium dicto Dño Alexandro Episcopo, et successoribus suis, quod pater meus et ego facere consuevimus annuatim pro terrā dictā. Scilicet quatuor solidos argenti annuos ad terminos in dicto manerio constitutos, pro omni servicio et exactione ad dictam terram pertinente. Pro hac autem venditione, &c., dedit mihi predictus Hugo viginti quinque marcas argenti. Et Ego Johēs p'fatus ei plenariam seysinam feci inde plenariam (sic) in curiā de Heywode Meipsum et heredes meos penitus deponendo, et totum jus quod habui, vel habere potui, et omnia munimenta quecunque habui de dictā terrā pro me et heredibus meis in manum dicti domini Episcopi resiguavi ad opus dicti Hugonis, et heredum suorum et assignatorum suorum. In cujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis Testibus: Dño Philippo,⁴ tunc Abbate Rowcestre, dño Galfrido de Gresele, dño Hugone Bagot, milite, dño Galfrido de Abbilbii, Dño Stephano Meverel, Dño Johanne de Actun, Nicholao Meverel, Ricardo Bagot, Henrico de Nortun, Humfrido de Strettun, Dño Adā personā de Kolewich, Johāne de Kolewich, et totā curiā de Haywode, et aliis.

[Beautifully written, seal gone, but wax has been green. (⁷⁹²⁵/₅ Philipps' MS.).]

Sciunt, p. et f. quod Ego Hugo de Breusia dedi, &c., Magistro Simoni de Walton totam terram meam quam habui in *villa de Colton*, et *infra manerium de Heywode*, scilicet "*le Lounde*," cum omnibus pertinentiis suis sine aliquo retenimento, tenendam et habendam de me et heredibus meis, sibi et heredibus suis, vel quibuscunque assignatis suis, infra religionem et extra, libere et quiete, et cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, &c., ad predictam terram de

¹ Died circa 2 H. III.

² This deed, compared with the foregoing, establishes the identity of "Warin de Colton" with Warin Griffyn de Colton.

³ Bishop Alexander is Alexander de Stavenby, consecrated 14th April, 1224 A.D.; died 26th December, 1238 A.D.

⁴ Abbot Philip was succeeded by Abbot Richard in 1256.

Colton, "et de la Lounde," spectantibus, in perpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim dño Coventr. et Lichf. Epō, &c., quatuor solidos argenti ad quatuor anni terminos: Scilicet ad festum Scti, Michaelis duodecim denarios, et ad festum Scti Andree duodecim denarios, et ad festum B. Marie in Marcio 12 denarios, et Scti Johis Bapt. 12 denarios et duos denarios ad festum Sancti Michaelis Galfrido filio Warini de Colton et heredibus suis pro omni servitio, et exactione, vel demanda, salvo forinseco servitio, si quis aliquid forinsecum servitium de predictâ terrâ debeat prestare. Pro hac autem donacione, &c., dedit mihi predictus Magister Symon quadraginta marcas argenti. Ego vero et heredes mei totam prenominatam terram de Coltone, et de le "Lounde," cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, &c., prefato Symoni et heredibus suis infra religionem et extra, &c., warrantizabimus in perpetuum, et ut hec mea donacio rata et stabilis permaneat in perpetuum presens scriptum sigilli mei impressione, et testium appositione, corroboraui. Hiis testibus: Domino Henrico Mavesin de Ridware, domino Willielmo de Wasteneya, Domino Willielmo de Bromley, militibus, Pagano de Wasteneya, Roberto de Mapelton, Ada de Colwych, Willielmo Griffin de Colton, Hugone de Colton, Willielmo de Styphinton, et aliis. (7925 Philipps' deeds.)

Omnibus has literas visuris vel audituris, Rogerus de Styvinton (?) sempiternam in domino, Salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse, &c., fratri Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome, martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosinam, homagium et servitium Galfridi le Wasteneya, domini de Tyxhale, et heredum suorum, mihi debitum de quinque acris terre, quas tenet de me in villâ de Colton, cum annuo redditu quatuor denariorum, ab eis plenarie precipiendorum, item homagium et servitium Willielmi domini de Bromley Bagod, et heredum suorum, mihi debitum de octo acris terre cum uno messuagio quod de me tenet in villa de Stiventon, cum annuo redditu quatuordecim denariorum, reddendo inde annuatim Johanni, filio Thome de Stivinton, octo denarios, item homagium et servitium Willielmi filii Rogeri fabri de Colton, et heredum suorum mihi debitum de unâ acra prati, quod de me tenet in "Emedewe," cum annuo redditu unius paris albarum cyrothecarum de pretio unius denarii. Item servitium Henrici Griffin de Colton et heredum suorum de medietate unius acre prati [very faint, but apparently correct] quam de me tenet in "Emedewe" cum annuo redditu unius denarii.

Item homagium et servitium Petri le Bret de Colton, et heredum suorum mihi debitum de medietate de "Aldwine-Holme,"² quam de me tenet, cum annuo redditu unius oboli. Item servitium Willielmi, filii Willielmi de le Piewe (Puiz ?) et heredum suorum mihi debitum de dimidiâ acra terre, quam de me tenet in le "Newlond," cum annuo redditu unius oboli. Tenend. et habend. dictis Priori et conventui, et successoribus suis, libere, &c., cum wardis, mariagiis, releviis, auxiliis, et escaetis, &c., ad me vel heredes meos inde aliquo modo spectantibus in perpetuum. Et ego Rogerus, et heredes mei, &c. (usual warranty), in cujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus: Domino Willielmo de Kaverswall, milite, Adâ de Colewij, Johanne Griffen de Colton, Roberto de Wulseleye, Johanne le Harpur de Colton, et aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7925.)

(CIRCA 1240 (?).)

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Magister Symon de Walton dedi et c. et hac presenti cartâ mēa confirmavi Deo, et ecclesie Sancti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, et canonicis regularibus ibidem Deo servientibus, pro salute anime mee, et meorum antecessorum et successorum, in liberam puram et per-

¹ Emedewe is the modern "Eye Meadow" (corrupted into Haymeadow), on the banks of the Trent. (See Colton Tithe Map, Nos. 249-252.)

² Can "Aldwine-Holm" be the *Almholm* of Queen Elizabeth's time, the modern "Almonds?" (See Tithe Map No. 611.)

petuam elemosinam, totam terram quam emi et habui de Hugone de Brewsya in villâ de Colton, et extra, videlicet totam terram de le "Lound," infra manerium de Heywode, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, et quoddam acrum in villâ de Colton cum domibus et virgultis, et aliis ad idem acrum pertinentibus, illud scilicet quod fuit quondam Warini Griffyn de Colton. Tened. et habend. de me et heredibus meis in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam sibi, et successoribus suis, libere et quiete et pacifice cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, libertatibus, aysiamenis et communis ad dictam terram de le "Lounde" et acrum pertinentibus, in perpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim Domino Coventr. et Lichfeld episcopo (qui pro tempore fuerit) quatuor solidos argenti scilicet ad festum Sancti Michaelis duodecim denarios, &c. (vide supra), et duos denarios ad festum Sancti Michaelis Galfrido, filio Warini de Colton, et heredibus suis pro omni seculari servitio, &c., in perpetuum; salvo forinseco servicio ei, &c. Ego autem totam prenominatam terram de le Lounde et predictum acrum, cum omnibus pertinentiis, &c., eodem modo quo prefatus Hugo de Breusia, &c., predictis ecclesie et canonicis contra omnes homines et feminas warrantizabimus in perpetuum. Et ut hec mea donacio, &c., presens scriptum sigilli mei, &c., corroboraui. Hiis testibus: Domino Henrico Mawwesyn, domino Willielmo de Wasteneys, domino Hugone de Bromlegh, (i.e., Bagot), domino Willielmo fratre ejus, militibus, Pagano de Wasteneys, James (sic) de Blithfeld, Willielmo Griffyn de Colton, Willielmo filio suo, Hugone de Coltone, Willielmo de Broctone, Adâ de Colwych, Warino preposito de Heywode, Johanne Grym, Willielmo de Styfinton, et aliis.

[Sealed with an oval pointed seal, bearing an impression like a Virgin and Child, with two kneeling figures below, and this inscription, "Sigillum Symon de Walton;" but the seal is very faint." (Philipp's MS. 7925.)]

Galfridus,¹ filius Warini de Colton, Magistro Radulpho de Jacobi, acrum quod fuit Warini patris mei in villâ de Colton cum domibus et virgultis. (B.M.)

Radulphus de Jacobus, Hugoni de Breheusa, idem acrum cum domibus et virgultis. (B.M.)

Galfridus,¹ filius Guarini de Colton, Johanni fratri meo donacionem Guarini patris mei. (B.M.)

Williſ de Stiventon Deo et ecclie Scti Thome, &c., unam acram in Colton, juxta terram Roberti filii Johnnis, &c. (B.M.)

Willielmus, filius Willielmi² de Colton, Priori Sancti Thome omnimodo sequelam curie mee, quam facere solebat pro terrâ Johis le Bret in Colton, et pro quibuscunque in posteris de feudo meo poterunt adipisci, ita tamen quod bis in anno aliquis, per eos destinatus, ad curiam meam veniat, pro afforamento, post rationabilem summonicionem. . . . Concessi et eisdem liberum ingressum ad ministracionem in quacunque terrâ eidem aliquis de feudo meo conferre voluerit. (B.M.)

COTON.

"Ex dono Willm̃i dñi de Careswalle totum manerium de Coton juxta Stafford, cum confirmatione Saeri Mauveysyn de Berewick."

Wm. Lord of Caverswall to Nicholas Prior of St. Thomas grants ye whole manor of Cotes near Stafford with all homages, rents, wards, reliefs, &c. Witnesses: Sir John de Chetwynd and Sir Philip his brother, Sir John Tuchet, Knight. To be held by the Priory of Saer de Mavesyn de Berewick. (Walter Chetwynd.)

¹ i.e., Geoffrey Griffyn.

² This may be William de Wasteneys, son of that Sir William de Wasteneys who gave land to John le Bret (vide supra in other Colton suits). The surname is sometimes dropped and de Colton substituted. The approximate date would be 1270-75 A.D.

Sciant, &c., quod ego Willielmus filius Alani,¹ concessi donationem quam fecit Nicholaus Malveisin de Cotes, assensu Johis hæredis sui, domui Scti Thome Martyris de septem acris in Kotes. Teste Gerardo filio Brien, &c.

Sciant, &c., quod Ego Saerus Maveysin,² de Berewick, dedi, &c., Dño Willmo de Kaverswall militi, totum manerium meum de Kotes juxta Stafford, tenendum, &c., sibi et hæredibus suis, &c., Reddendo annuatim unum par albarum Citrothecarum pro omni servicio seculari, et sectâ curie mee, et heredum meorum, et dominorum de "Oswaldestre:" Salvo forinseco servicio, et salvâ custodiâ Castri de Oswaldestre tempore guerre inter Angliam et Walliam debitâ, viz., quanta pertinet ad medietatem feodi unius militis. Pro hac autem donacione dedit mihi dictus Willms 40 marcas argenti premanibus. Hiis testibus: Dño Johanne Chetwynd, et Philippo fratre ejus, militibus, &c.

Nicholas le Rotour gave all his land in Coton to St. Thomas' Priory. (B.M.)

Clement of London, a citizen of London, gave them one messuage in Coton together with a croft and 12 acres, and three more messuages with the crofts lying to them, and 3 half yardlands in Coton. (Walter Chetwynd.)

DILHORNE³

"Ex dono Râdi, domini de Dulverne, terras in Dulverne."

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Radulphus, dominus de Dulverne, dedi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome m. juxta Stafford, et canonicis regularibus ibidem Deo servientibus, in liberam, &c., elemosynam, pro salute anime mee, et meorum antecessorum et successorum, et pro animâ Agnetis uxoris mee, totum servicium Roberti, filii Alexandri, et heredum suorum, de tenemento quod de me tenuit in "Chesterhurst," quod est in manerio de Dulverne, videlicet in homagiis, serviciis, releviis, wardis, et escaetis, &c., solutum et quietum de me et heredibus meis in perpetuum. Concedo etiam, pro me et heredibus meis, ut predicti canonici, et successores eorum, percipiant annuatim de predicto Roberto, et heredibus suis, omnia predicta servicia que mihi facere consueverat, &c., &c. Hiis testibus: Domino Willielmo de Chetelton, Thoma de Kersewelle, Johanne Coyne, Thoma Coyne, Roberto de Kaverswelle, Roberto le Hore, Waltero de Whytemore, et aliis. (Philippus' MS. 7992.)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Radulphus, dominus de Dulverne, in ligia potestate meâ, dedi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, et canonicis ibidem, &c., pro salute, &c. (ut supra) Agnetis uxoris mee, sex solidos sterlingorum annuatim percipiendos de tenemento Roberti filii Alexandri in Chesterhurst, in perpetuum, &c. Hiis testibus: Domino Willielmo de Chetelton (cæt. ut supra). (Philippus' MS. 7980.)

¹ Of Fitz Alan, who had succeeded to the over lordship forfeited by R. de Belesme's rebellion; Cotes having originally been held by the Mavesyn's, Asser's descendants, of Roger de Montgomery; (see "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 195, &c.), and, as it appears, by the same tenure of Castleguard on the Welsh border, as their Colton manor.

² Saer Maveysin's name will be found continually in pleas relating to Cotes, near Stafford, between 1240-79 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections.")

³ E. I. (1285). Peter son and heir of Saer Maveysin warranted four messuages and two carucates of land in Cotes to the Prior, when Alice, Saer's widow, sued the latter for dower. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 158.)

⁴ Two miles west of Cheadle, Staffordshire.

DRAYTON.^{1 2}

"Ex dono Hervei Bagot et Melecentæ Stafford uxoris ejus, villam de Drayton, cum molendino, et ceteris pertinentiis."

(1194, 5 R. I.)

Sciunt tam p. quam f., quod Ego Herveius Bagot in necessitate tali constitutus ut acquietarem apud Dominum Regem Baroniam de Stafford, ad uxorem meam Melisantiā et heredes meos jure hereditario pertinentem, assensu ejusdem Melisantie uxoris mee, et heredum meorum, vendidi et concessi et presenti cartā meā confirmavi ecclesie Sancti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci canonicis villam de Draitun, cum molendino et ceteris pertinentiis, et cum sectā ejusdem molendini quantumcunque ad ipsum de terrā mea pertinet, et cum omnibus libertatibus et consuetudinibus ad predictam villam de Draitun, vel molendinum, pertinentibus, tam in refectione stagni quam in attractione (attractione?), et in ceteris omnibus, pro 35 marcis argenti; ad tenend. de me et heredibus meis libere, quiete in perpetuum: Reddendo annuatim dimidiam marcam argenti; medietatem ad festum S. Marie, et medietatem ad festum S. Michaelis, pro omni seculari servitio et exactione ad me vel heredes meos pertinente, Salvo forinseco. Nos autem warrantizabimus predicta omnia contra omnes homines et feminas. Hiis testibus: Silvestro, priore de Stanes, Thō Noel, Ada de Audithlegh, Atrop Hastang, Rado de Mutton, Nicho, (et) (suggested by General Wrottesley) Rogero Bagot, Willmo Bagot de Blumhill, Willmo Bagot de la Hyde. [Walter Chetwynd's MS. and Harl. MS. 2044.]

Sciunt presentes et futuri quod Ego Melisant,² domina de Stafford, pro salute anime mee, et meorum, dedi et concessi et presenti carta mea confirmav. Ecclesie Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, villam de Drayton, cum molendino, et cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, e libertatibus, et commodis, sicut carta domini mei Hervei Bagot monstrat.

(PHILIPPS' MS. 7893.)

Sciunt presentes et futuri quod Ego Willielmus de Stafford, filius Hervei Bagot, assensu domini et fratris mei Hervei Bagot, et assensu domine et matris mee Mylisent, pro salute animarum nostrarum, concessi, et presenti cartā meā confirmavi Ecclesie Sancti Thome juxta Stafford, et canonicis ibidem

¹ Two miles north of Penkridge on the river Penk.

² For a far more perfect copy of this conveyance of Drayton (near Penkridge) to St. Thomas, with Mr. Eyton's valuable notes, consult "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. II., pp. 263-5. The complete list of witnesses is as follows: "Silvestro Priore de Stanes, Robert de Copenhul, Adam de Bradele, Bernardo de Breowud, capellanis, Stephano de Wiðdestun, Magistro Huberto de Brumle, Ivone de Kanot, Thoma Noel, Adam de Aldithel, Aifrop Hasteng, Thoma de Kerswell, Radulpho (et?) Nicholao de Mutton, Rogero Bagot, Willielmo Bagot de Blumenhull, Willielmo Bagot de la Hyde, Ivone de Mere, Johanne de (H)acton, Willielmo de Brocton, Willielmo clerico de Stafford, Toma filio Wimari, Simone de Nortun, Thoma de Bedenhale, Roberto de Saldeford, Roberto de Mulewich, Johanne de Burton, et m. aliis." (The original is in the "Record Office," "Cartæ Antiquæ," 34.)

The charter was confirmed by another of Melisant's, as well as by the grant of William de Stafford the son of Hervey Bagot, with the consent of Hervey his brother, and Melisant his mother; also by Richard de Stretton, "because (to quote Mr. Eyton) the ingress at Drayton, allowed by one of the de Stafford lords to his Stretton tenant, compelled the Prior to procure their deed of release for this 'Stretton' claim upon Drayton."

² In 13 King John (1211 A.D.) Melisant sued the Prior of St. Thomas for a third of a virgate in Draiton, as her dowry. "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 151.) (Can this be possibly a misprint for one-third of the vill of Drayton?)

Deo servientibus, in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam, concessionem, et donacionem, quam pater meus Herveius fecit predictis canonicis de villâ de Drayton, cum molendino et cum sectâ ejusdem molendini, quantuncumque de terrâ mea pertinet, et cum omnibus aliis libertatibus, &c. Reddendo annuatim dimidiam marcam argenti pro omni servicio, &c., salvo forinseco servitio, &c. Pro hac autem dederunt mihi unam marcam argenti. Hiis testibus: W. Bagot de la Hyde, Eudone de Mere, ... (torn) de Dulverne, Roberto del Bec, Johanne de Salt, Hugone de Dokfield, Hugone de Haenegate, Gerardo de la Lehe, Godrido de (torn), Ricardo filio Musse, Willielmo filio Roberti, Waltero Wumare (*i.e.*, Wimer), Willielmo filio Walteri Wimere, et multis aliis. (*Circa* 1220?).

Sciant presentes et futuri quod Ego Ricardus de Stretton,¹ Ecclesie Sancti Thome de Stafford, et canonicis, &c., dedi, concessi, et presenti carta mea confirmavi, totum jus quod ad me, vel heredes meos, potuit pertinere in Drayton, et molendinum de Drayton, cum omnibus pertinentiis eorum, pro salute anime mee, et pro unâ marcâ argenti quam propter hec a dictis canonicis accepi, salvo cleimio inter me et Herveium Bagot, super eisdem Draitona et molendino; Ita quidem quod quemcunque exitum capiat predictum cleimium, inter me et Herveium Bagot, dicti canonici nihilominus habebunt et tenebunt que prediximus Draytonam et molendinum cum pertinentiis suis, sine impedimento, jure perpetuo, libere, et quiete, &c., ab omni servicio, &c., salvo forinseco servicio; Si autem, Deo donante, versus Herveium Bagot recuperavero ita quod dicti canonici ad nos de dicto tenemento versi fuerunt, ipsi canonici dabunt mihi, vel heredibus meis, super unam marcam quam jam dederunt, duas marcas argenti, ut sint tres marce, et quieti erunt a dimidia marca quam pro eodem tenemento Herveio Bagot annuatim reddere consueverunt ab omni seculari servitio, concessione, et exactione ad me, &c., pertinente, salvo forinseco servicio, et, preterea, si dicti canonici de dicto tenemento ad nos versi fuerunt, ipsi canonici dimidiabunt mecum vel cum heredibus meis qualesificationem (?) suam, quam facient versus Herveium Bagot, pro warrantizatione dicti tenementi. Sin autem de predicto tenemento de Drayton, et molendino, cum pertinentiis eorum, dicti canonici ad nos non fuerunt versi, ipsi canonici nihilominus ipsum tenementum sine impedimento nostro tenebunt libere et quiete ab omni seculari servitio et concessione, &c., ad me vel ad heredes meos pertinente, salvo forinseco servicio; nec, ultra marcam illam quam mihi dederunt, quicquam mihi vel heredibus meis pro dicto tenemento, vel pro presentis scripti munimine preter oraciones debebunt. Hiis testibus, &c. (B.M.)

Sc. p. et f. quod cum controversia esset inter Philippum Priorem Scti Thome ex unâ parte, et Dñm Herveum, filium Ricardi de Stretthton, ex alterâ parte, super quâdam Brueriâ in territorio de Draton, tandem sub hac forma concordati sunt. Scilicet quod predicti Prior et Conventus concesserunt predicto Herveio, et successoribus, quandam partem terre que jacet extra hesiam de Doneston ex parte australi, illam scilicet partem que jacet inter viam que vocatur "*Phefusti*" et "*Kanhull-meirs*" in latitudine ex parte occidentali, et extendit se in longitudine usque Kan-hull-sige (*siche*?) versus austrum ad sumendum turbas et brueriam prout sibi placuerit, sine contradictione p'dictorum Prioris et Conventus et successorum. Residuum in tota terra in territorio de Draton, que jacet inter aquam que vocatur Pencriz et Holebroc-sige, quietum remaneat p'dictis Priori, &c. (Warranty and seal by both

¹ For an account of the de "Strettons," consult "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. II., pp. 245-6, &c. They descended from "Herveius" of Domesday survey, who held the manors of Stretton (on Dunsmore?) Gailey, Water Eton in Penkridge, Shareshill, and Sardon. [May the name of Hervey point to some closer connection between the families of Bagot and de Stretton, both serving under the same overlord?]

parties.) Hiis testibus: Alano de Pencriz, Waltero de Somerford, Rafo de Dulferne, Rob'to de Whitston,¹ Alexandro Mustrel,¹ Ada de Shradicote,¹ Godefrido de Billinton, Hamone clerico, et aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7893). Circa 1215-25 A.D. (?). [The writing of this deed is very fine.]

(1305 A.D.)

Ricardus Prior Scti Thome et ejusdem loci conventus. Noveritis nos dedisse Willielmo de Modreshalle manentem in Pencrich, pro quâdam summâ pecunie premanibus, duas acras regales vaste terre in feodo de Drayton, jacentes in latitudine inter viam ducentem de Pencrich versus Stafford et culturam quam homines de Dunston de nobis tenent ad terminum annorum, et extendit se in longitudine juxta predictam viam. Hiis testibus: Dño Willielmo Tromwyne, Roberto le Champion, Willielmo Elmedon, dño de Pylatenhall, Willielmo le Wodeward, Ricardo Tromwyne, et aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7893). [Marked at back of deed 35 E. 1.]

(1327 A.D.)

A tout que ceste Lettere verrunt ou orrunt Jonan Huse de Adbrighton² saluz en Dieu. Sachez moy aver granto et done à Willieme de Cotes tut le service le Priur de Seynt Thomas, près de Stafford, de un prée qe avandist Priur de moy tinte en Drayton juste Pencriz, ensemblement ad deux marscs de annuele rent, issant de menne le prée, &c., donne à St. Thomas le dimegn en le quinseyne de Seint Michael, et l'an du regne le Roy Edward fitz le Roy Edward, vicesime. (20 E. II.) (Philipps' MS. 7893.)

Agreement between Thomas Prior of St. Thomas, and his convent, on one side, and Robert Lyot de Drayton and Richard his son, on the other, about one virgate and the house built on it, and a curtilage, in Drayton, which Stephen de Wolaston formerly held of the Priory. Witnesses: Wm de Pilatonhall, Thomas of the same place, Wm de Bromsulf, John de Greneleye, and others. (Philipps' MS. 7893.)

DRENGETON (i.e., DROINTON).³

"Ex dono Robti fil. Galfridi de Drengeton, divers. terras, et totum dominium suum in Drengeton."

"Ex dono Galfridi de D., 3 virg. terr. bosci, &c., in Drengeton."

"Ex dono Oliveri Meverell de Throwley, et Wilti et Thomæ filiorum ejus, et Alinæ filiz suæ, diversas terras, redditus, &c., in D."

"Ex dono Alianoræ dñæ Ferrars, Comitissæ Derb., libertatem approviandi vasta de Drengeton."

"Robertus, filius Galfridi de Drengeton, Deo et ecclie S. T., sex acras, quarum una juxta terram Rici Meverell, et una juxta terram Rici de la Lee, &c., et 24 acras in territorio de Drengeton, quarum 13 emi de Dñâ Aviciâ, aviâ mea, et de dote matris mee postquam desponsavi Hawisiam uxorem meam; quarum una jacet inter terram Nicolai Meverell et 2 inter terram Ricardi le Waleis, et Ricardi de la Lee, et 1 inter terram Ade de Drengeton, et Nicolai clerici, et 1 juxta terram Wilti filii Aviciæ et 1 juxta terram Willielmi de Bergweney, "et plures terr. quas non potui ponere isto loco quia carta detorta est." (Erdeswicke's note.) (B. M.)

¹ These three occur in the Assize Roll 5 K. John. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 126.)

² Albrighton (since called Albright Hussey) in Shropshire. (See "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., pp. 219 and 220.)

³ About one and a half miles east of Stowe, and south of Chartley.

Nicolaus, Prior Scti Thome, Ranulpho le Wayt "Bermeswood" in Drengeton, et acram vocatam "Ryecroft" juxta terram Magistri Petri Meverell, habend sibi et hæredibus suis in perpetuum, &c.

Nicolaus, filius Dñi Rogeri de Marchinton, Ricō filio Simonis fabri de Drengeton donavi placeam et curtilagium quam Matilda de Frodeswell tenuit in Drengeton. Hiis Testibus: Thoma de Drengeton, Thoma de Stevinton, Ada de Aula, Radulpho de Catnhull, Robtō Page. (B. M.)

Rob. de Bromley, clericus, dominus medietatis villæ de Drengeton, et Felicia¹ uxor ejus, relaxant duodecim acras vasti Ricardo, Priori Sancti Thome, et canonicis ididem, Deo servientibus in Drengeton, &c. Hiis testibus: Domino Roberto de Standon, milite, Domino Willielmo de Stafford, milite, Thoma Meverell de Gayton, &c. (Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

Alicia, filia Oliveri Meverel de Throwley, dedi decem solidos annui redditus in villâ de Drengeton, Priori Sancti Thome, &c. (Chetwynd's MS. Notes.) ["Alicia" identical with "Alina."]

(1271 A.D.)

Peter Meverell held half the vill of Drengeton of Nicholas de Aspley, Prior of St. Thomas. (Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

Willielmus Meverell, Dominus de Throwley, concessit Deo, et ecclesie Sancti Thome juxta Stafford, donationem quam eis fecit Alina soror sua, vidua, de redditu 10s. in villâ de Drengeton. (Walter Chetwynd's Notes.)

Alianora, Dña Ferrars, Comitissa Derb., concessit Deo, et ecclesie Sancti Thome &c., quod possint appruare vastum suum de Drengeton. Hiis testibus: Willielmo de Kaverswall, Hugone de Weston, Henrico de Caverswall, militibus, Ricardo de Blithfield &c. (Walter Chetwynd's MS. Notes.)

In 1203 A.D. Oliver Meverell grants land in Drengeton to St. Thomas. (Walter Chetwynd.)

(CIRCA 1248 ?)

Ricardus, Prior Sancti Thome, Hugoni, filio Roberti de Le, messuagium in Lee, cum novem sellionibus juxta terram Roberti, fratris dicti Hugonis, et acram juxta terram Ricardi de Lee, et Thome de Lee, &c.

LA LEE (IN DRENGETON), *i.e.*, DRINETON.²

(CIRCA 1275 ?)

Omnibus Xti. fidelibus pr. scriptum visuris, &c., Agnes, uxor Roberti fil Ricardi salutem. Noverit univ. vestra me remisisse, &c., pro me, et heredibus meis, Fratri Nichō Priori Scti Thome, &c., totum jus et clamum quod habui, vel habere potui, in duabus acris terre cum pertinentibus in le "Le Feld" (juxta Drengeton) secundum quod in carta quādam Rici de la Lee dictis

¹ Rob. de B. and Felicia entailed land in Colton on Ermentrude their daughter. Rob. was dead in 16 E. II.

² "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 22, for disputes affecting this Drineton land, and for references to the family of Lee [and Vol. VII., pp. 24 and 25, and 21 and 23 E.I. Prior Nicholas founded his claims on the feoffment of one Richard de Drengeton.] (1285 A.D., 23 E. I.)

John son of Robert de la Lee of Drengeton sued the Prior of St. Thomas for five acres in Drengeton, of which the Prior had unjustly disseised Robert his father. The Prior claimed to have entered on three of them as his escheat, when Robert was outlawed for felony, and denied disseising him of the other two. Case referred to a jury (in suit No. 2). The same John sued him for a messuage and three acres there, stating that Agnes his mother had been wrongfully disseised by Richard de la Lee, through whom the Prior entered. It was denied.

Priori, &c., plenius continetur; In cujus rei, &c. Hiis testibus: Phō de la Lee, Willō et Hugone de eādem, Ricō de Waleya, Roberto filio suo, Willō de Drengeton. (Philippe' MS. 7917.)

O. Xti fidelibus, &c., Willielmus de la Lee, &c., Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse Fratri Nicholao Priori Scti Thome, &c., in puram, &c., elemosinam totam le "Haystowe," cum totā supervesturā, extendentem se a domo Hugonis de la Lee usque ad proprium pratum dictorum Prioris et conventus juxta Haysiam de "Harlee." Tenend, &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Hugone de la Lee, Thoma filio Ade de Drengeton, Robto Walenā de eādem, Robto filio Ade de eādem, Rogero de Huntindon, et aliis. (Philippe' MS. 7917.)

O. Xt fidelibus, Thomas de la Lee salutem eternam. Noveritis me concessisse, &c., Dñō Nichōlao Priori Scti Tho. m. juxta Stafford, et eidem loci conventui, totam terram meam, in la Lee quam tenui de eisdem tam in feodo quam ad terminum, cum messuagio et edificiis super edificatis, et cum commodis, &c., in pace in perpet., nihil mihi vel her. meis retinend. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Magistro Petro Meverill, Ada de Drengeton, Willō de la Lee, Ricardo de eadem, Johē Colemon, et aliis (Philippe' MS. 7917.)

Universis Xti fidelibus presens scriptum visuris, &c., Willielmus de la Lee, filius Roberti de la Lee, salutem. Noveritis me dedisse, &c., Fratri Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome, &c., in puram, &c., elemosinam quandam viam competentem per medium terre mee ad cartandum, &c., Scilicet per medium anguli gardini mei ad "Sladehawe," &c. Hiis testibus: Hugone domino de Weston, Thoma de Stiventon, Thoma de la Lee, Ricardo de eādem, Ricardo Waleya, et aliis. (Philippe' MS. 7917.)

Ricardus de la Lee salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse Fratri Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome, &c., in liberam, &c., elemosinam, duas acras terre in le "Lee Feld" videlicet unam acram, de tribus selionibus et unā perticā, inter terram R, filii Ade, et campum de Newton juxta le "Longe-Haystowe;" et unam selionem extendentem super terram dictorum Prioris, et conventus juxta terram Magistri Petri Meverell. Tenendas, &c. (Usual warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Thoma de la Lee, Willielmo et Hugone de eādem, Ricardo le Waleya, Roberto filio suo, Willielmo de Drengeton, et aliis. (Philippe' MSS. 7917.)

Omnibus, &c., Willielmus de la Lee salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse Fratri Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome, &c., totum pratum meum quod habui in territorio de la Lee, in campo quod vocatur le "Dedeflattisfeld," una cum morā inclusa, cujus quidem prati unum capud extendit se usque ad Myddelford" et aliud capud usque ad viam que ducit del Ley versus Harley, inter arrabilem terram meam ex uno latere et rivulum qui vocatur "Harley broc" ex alio latere. Tenendum, &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Thoma Meverell, Willō de Weston, clerico, Ricardo Choli, Thoma filio Ade de Drengeton, Thoma de la Lee, Johanne Waryn de Newton, et aliis. (Philippe' MS. 7917.)

DUNSTON.²

"Ex dono Ric³ dñi de Stretton quasdam particulas prati in Dunston."

Ricardus filius et hæres dñi Ricardi de Stretton, militis, dñi de Stretton,⁴ et de Dunston, confirmat Nicholao Priori Scti Thome omnes portiones pratorum quas Ricardus pater ejus dedit eis in Dunston, &c. (B.M.)

¹ Lea is a mile south of Drinton.

² Between Stafford and Penkridge.

³ Temp. K. John and H. III.

⁴ Mentioned in suits of end H. III. and early E. I. Prior Nicholas is Nicholas de Aspley (vide list).

Universis Xti fidelibus presens scriptum inspecturis vel audituris, Ricardus dominus de Stretton et de Dunston, miles, eternam in Dño salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me, divine pietatis intuitu, et pro salute anime mee, et meorum antecessorum et successorum, dedisse, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome martyris juxta Stafford et canonicis regularibus ibidem Deo servientibus, in puram et p. elemosinam, quasdam particulas prati mei in Duneston; Videlicet totam partem meam prati de le "Brode-medewe," et totam partem meam de le "Lake-medewe," et de Rusci-holm (Rushy-holme), et de "Parvo prato." Habendas et tenendas de me et heredibus meis sibi et successoribus suis libere, &c., cum omnibus pertinentiis suis in liberam, &c., elemosynam, et cum libero transitu et pacifico per totum terminum ad fenum suum dictorum pratorum falcandum levand. preparand. et quocunque voluerit cariad. sine impedimento aut contradictione mei, vel meorum alicujus in perpetuum. Et Ego Ricardus, dominus de Stretton et de Dunston, et heredes mei, prenominatas particulas prati, &c., predictis ecclesie et canonicis, et eorum successoribus, in prescripta formā contra omnes homines et feminas warrantizabimus, &c., in perpetuum; Et ut hec mea donacio, &c. Hiis testibus: Domino Johanne de Chetewind, Domino Philippo fratre suo, Domino Johanne Tochet,¹ militibus, Bertramo de Bourk, Willielmo de Acton,² Nicholao de Bedenhall, Roberto Teneray,³ Ada de Parco, Thoma de la Lee, et aliis. [Philippus' MS. 7891.]

Hec conventio facta est inter fratrem Nicholaum Priorem Sancti Thome, et ejusdem loci conventum, ex unā parte, et dominum Ricardum, filium domini Ricardi de Stretton, ex alterā parte. Videlicet quod predicti prior et conventus concesserunt, pro se et successoribus suis, predicto Ricardo et heredibus suis duas acras terre regales in territorio de Dunston, videlicet in campo qui vocatur "Swanfurdfeld," propinquiores capitali messuagio de Dunston, que quidem acre jacent inter regalem viam, que ducit a Dunston usque "Penkrych" ex parte occidentali, et inter campum vocatum "Swanfurdfeld" ex parte orientali, et a viā que ducit de "Suanford" ex parte australi usque in predictum capitale messuagium ex parte boreali (word omitted) ipsas quas predictas duas acras terre includendo et in defensum tenendo pro voluntate suā sine impedimento et contradictione dictorum Prioris et conventus et successorum suorum in perpetuum. Et predictus Ricardus pro se et heredibus suis predicto Priori et conventui, &c., ut libere possint, sine impedimento sui, heredum aut assignatorum suorum, quandam particulam bosci, que vocatur Lee-feldes cum quodam campo qui vocatur "Swanfurlongs," et duas placeas brueri, cum tribus porcionibus terre arrabilis in territorio de Drayton, includere et indefensum tenere singulis annis et omnibus anni temporibus, et proficuum suum quibuscunque modis voluerint inde facere. Remisit quoque dictus dominus Ricardus et quietum clamavit, pro se et heredibus suis, predictis Priori et conventui jus et libertatem sumendi turbas et brueram quam Philippus, quondam Prior Sancti Thome, et ejusdem loci conventus Herveyo de Stretton et heredibus suis concesserunt in quadam placeā bruerā que jacet extra heysiam de Dunston in territorio de Drayton, inter viam de "Peofsti" et "Caluhulmeres," ex parte occidentali de Peofstye. Et ut ista conventio rata et stabilis remaneat in perpetuum, &c. (Seals of both contracting parties.) Hiis testibus: Dominis Willielmo de Kaverswall, Willielmo Bagot, Philippo de Chetwynde, militibus, Radulpho de Burgo, Willielmo de Mora, Henrico de Colton, Thoma de le Lee, et aliis. [Philippus' MS. 7891.]

¹ Sir John Touchet occurs in 55 H. III. as serving on the Great Assize. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 201.)

² These two served as jurors for Cuttlestone Hundred 56 H. III. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 208.)

DRACOTE.

Alicia cameraria, Margarete filie mee octo acras apud Draycote,¹ inter terram Ade venatoris et Rogeri Ginger. Testibus: Thomá Camerario, Willielmo Engelon, Rogero de Chaundoya, Ricardo filio Gilberti de bosco, Willielmo le Chaundoya. (B.M.)

DURANDESTHORPE.

*"Ex dono Galfridi le Savage totam terram suam in Durandesthorpe."*²

Inter Priorem et Rogerum, filium Roberti, filii Swani de Durandesthorpe, facta anno quo Ricardus de Marisco, Episcopus Melinensis,³ obiit, scilicet 1226, hec convencio. (The details have been omitted.) (B.M.)

Thomas filius Morini, assensu Amicie uxoris mee, et Thome filii mei, Deo et ecclesie S. Thome, &c., in Durandesthorpe. (B.M.)

Thomas filius Morini, Deo et ecclesie S. Thome, &c., messuagium in Durandesthorpe juxta terram Radulphi Pincerni, &c. (B.M.)

Thomas filius Morini, confirmavi concessionem patris mei, et Thome filii mei, Deo (et ecclesie S. Thome), &c. (B.M.)

Willielmus de Ridware Deo et ecclesie S. Thome confirmat donacionem Thome filii Morini. (B.M.)

Robertus⁴ de Bromcote pro conversorum meorum satisfactione, et salute domine mee, Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., messuagium quod Thomas, filius Morini, contulit, et Willielmus de Ridware confirmavit. (B.M.)

Robertus de Bromcot Deo (et ecclesie S. Thome) servicium Ricardi Rundel pro prato sub Tertesburi (Tuttesbury) apud Mershtun, et beneficium de feodo meo de Durandesthorp. (B.M.)

Alexander, filius Jordani, Deo (et ecclesie S. Thome) tres seliones terre in Durandesthorpe. (B.M.)

Galfridus⁵ Salvage Deo et (ecclesie S. Thome) carucatas terre in Durandesthorpe, pro salute anime mee, et uxoris mee Leticie. [Idem Galfridus sibi retinuit quatuor virgatas terre in Hecthorpe.] (B.M.) (Circa 1180.)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Anketil, filius Thome, concessi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Beati Thome, &c., in liberam, &c., elemosinam, unum messuagium, cum dimidia acra terre in augmento dicti messuagii, in villa de Durandesthorpe; Remisi etiam, pro salute anime mee et meorum antecessorum, &c., sex denarios, quos ab eisdem annuatim solebam percipere pro dicto messuagio et dimidia acra terre. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Domino Petro de Durandesthorpe, Rogero filio Roberti, Magistro Willielmo Lupo, Pagano de Tykeshale (i.e., de Wasteneyes), Waltero de Hanegate, Stephano de Hoptun, Ricardo ye Knych, et aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7892.)

(CIRCA 1200 A.D.)

Sciant tam p. quam f., quod ego Galfridus,⁶ filius Galfridi le Salvage, dedi &c., ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., donacionem quam eis fecit Galfridus, pater meus, de tota terra sua quam habuit in Durandesthorpe, libere, &c. Hiis

¹ About three miles south-west of Cheadle, Staffordshire. How this land was subsequently acquired by the Priory there is no evidence to show.

² Durandesthorpe must be "Donisthorpe," about two and a half miles south-west of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and on the borders of Leicestershire and Derbyshire.

³ Melicensis (i.e.) Emly in Ireland, serving probably for a suffragan Bishop's title, no unusual practice. Of Bishop Richard Marsh I have ascertained nothing.

⁴ Is this the Robert de Bramcote of 9 H. III. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 32?)

⁵ For the pedigree of "Savage," consult Dugdale's "Warwickshire."

⁶ Geoffrey Savage succeeded his father Geoffrey 7 R. I. (1195 A.D.).

testibus : Willielmo de Gresley, Radulpho de Mutton, Eudone de Mutton, Roberto Grym, Roberto d'Appelbi, Willielmo de Brocton, Nicholao de Colton (i.e., N. de Maveysin), Stephano de Davenepot, Ricardo de Davenepot, Ricardo de Hoptun, Reinero de Heiwode, et aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7892.)

Omnibus, &c., Rogerus, filius Rogeri de Durandesthorpe, salutem. Noverit, &c., me dedisse Fratri Nicholao Priori Sancti Thome, &c., jus et clamum, quod habui in unâ acrâ terre cum domibus, &c., in villâ de Durandesthorpe. Reddendo duodecim denarios, &c. Hiis testibus : (deed torn) . . . de Durandesthorp, Johanne Godmere de eâdem, Thoma de la Lee, Henrico Griffyn¹ de Coltun, Roberto (torn), et aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7892.)

FRODESWALL.

"*Ex dono Roberti le Hore² totam terram suam in Frodeswall et Wulpheleya.*"—" *Ex dono Hugonis Tynmore homagium et servitium 20 solidorum cum pertinentiis de Tho. Meverelle in villâ de Frodeswelle.*"—" *Ex dono Walteri de Grey totam terram suam in Frodeswelle.*"

Simon,³ clericus de Lichfield, dominus de Tynmore, Waltero de Gray dimidiam terre mee de Frodeswell quam ego derationatus sum in curiâ Dñi Regis duello, scilicet medietatem illam, unde messuagium (?) est, propinquissimam juxta fontem de Frodeswell, salvo servicio Regis, et servicio Dñi Episcopi, propter decimam partem feodi unius militis. (B.M.)

Walterus⁴ de Gray tradidi meipsum, et liberos meos, cum totâ terrâ meâ in Frodeswell, concilio canonicorum Sancti Thome de Stafford; et ipsi canonici cum suo labore et opere et expensis suis mittant eosdem pueros meos ad honestam warisonam,⁵ et me ipsum honeste exhibebunt in victu, et vestitu, secundum facultatem domûs, cum me ad meos conferre voluero. (B.M.)

Walterus de Gray, Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., totam terram meam de Frodeswell; pro hac autem donacione dicti canonici receperunt me, et tres liberos meos in concilio suo ad mittendos eosdem liberos labore et opere et expensis suis ad honestam warisonam, et ad exhibend. mihi in victu et vestitu necessaria secundum facultatem domûs, cum me ad eos conferre voluero. (B.M.)

Godardus⁶ de Tynmore, concilio et concessione Petronille⁶ uxoris mee,

¹ Henry Griffyn's date is about 1265 A.D. Why the de Wasteneys of Tixall and Colton people, should witness these Durandesthorpe charters does not appear (?) but the Wasteneys held Leicestershire land, and part of Donisthorpe is in Church-Gresley.

² Of this family we meet with "Wm. and Nicholas le Hore" of Frodeswell in 21 E. I., and 5 King John *R. le Hore is named.* (*Vide* "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vols. III. and VI.)

³ Simon le Clerk de Lichfield (*al.* "Simon le Sage") was the Bishop's tenant at Timmore, Freeford, and Fradswell; in 14 H. II. (1167-68), Pipe Roll, he fined 10 marcs for a writ against William de Timmore and Arnald de Dockasy, his tenants, Simon and Walter de Gray, brothers, being his sureties. (*Vide* Eyton's note, "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., p. 54.)

⁴ i.e., provision, supply, connected with our "garnish" (old garneson).

⁵ Godard married the heiress of Simon de Lichfield, Petronilla "le Sage." In the Assize Roll 5 King John he is fined $\frac{1}{2}$ marc. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 100.)

⁶ Petronilla survived her husband; in Final Concords ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 170), September, 1206 A.D., she allows a carucate of land in Fradeswell to be the right of Oliver Meverel and his heirs, to be held of her and her heirs at a rent of 20s. yearly; Oliver to perform the forinsic service (i.e., one-tenth part of a Knight's fee). In "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 16, in a Hanington suit, her descent is given. (1222 A.D., 6 H. III.)

Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., totam terram quam tenet Walterus de Gray in Frodeswell, scilicet medietatem totius ville de Frodeswell, faciendo mihi et heredibus meis, servicium decime partis unius militis pro omnibus serviciis; ita quod nihil aliud mihi vel heredibus meis retinui: et terram prefatam ego Godardus, et heredes mei, warrantizabimus, &c. Pro hac dederunt mihi duas marcas argenti, et Petronille uxori mee unum anulum aureum. (B.M.)

Petronilla, existens vidua Godardi de Tynmore, Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., donacionem quam Walterus de Gray eis fecit de totâ medietate de Frodeswell, quam pater meus Symon dedit ei pro homagio et servicio suo, salvo servicio Domini Regis propter servicium decime partis unius militis, &c. (B.M.)

Convencio inter Priorem et Oliverum Meverell facta 1203 A.D. Scilicet Prior dedit pomerium inter curiam illorum et cimiterium. Idem vero Oliverus, pro se et heredibus suis, concessit alnetum, et moram, et quodcunque inclusum fuerat inter sepes illorum; et dimidiam acram terre in . . . rant de, et aliam dimidiam acram in Blackholne. (B.M.)

Convencio inter Priorem et Willielmum le Chaun pro redditu 2s. et librâ piperis. (B.M.)

Willielmus Meverell dedit Priori Nicholao Sancti Thome in excambio, ut patet per cartam Willielmi, &c. (B.M.)

Thomas Meverell tenet quatuor acras vasti ex dimissione² Ricardi de Hilderstone, Prioris Sancti Thome. (B.M.)

Hugo de Tynmore,³ Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome, homagium et servicium 20s. annui redditus, et totum forinsecum servicium Thome Merevell, cum wardia, releviis, escaetis, et maritagiis, &c. Hiis testibus: Dño Willielmo de Kareswell, Philippo de Chetwynde, Philippo de Draycot, Ricardo filio suo, Radulpho de Burgo, Roberto de Haneate, Henrico filio Hugonis de Coltun, et aliis. (B.M.)

Hugo de Tymore, &c., me constituisse Ricardum Toly de Frodeswell attornatum meum ad ponendum fratrem Nicholaum, Priorem Sancti Thome, in seisinam dimidie illius medietatis ville de Frodeswell, quam Thomas Meverell de me tenet, datum apud Eccleshall (5 K. J., 1203) Ed. I. (†). (B.M.)

Hugo de Tymor, filius Willielmi Tymore, Thome Meverell, domino de Gayton, quia homagia et servicia nostra et heredum nostrorum, cum wardis et releviis, &c., Ro . . . e tenenti nostro in Frodeswell spectantibus, Priori Sancti Thome dedi, volo ut homagium ei faciatis. Hiis testibus: Willielmo de Kaverswall, Roberto de Pipa, &c. (B.M.)

GAYTON.

Thomas Meverell,⁴ dominus de Gayton, Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c. Hiis testibus: Willielmo de Kareswelle, Johanne de Chetwynde, militibus, Waltero de Mulwich, Philippo de Mulwich, &c. (B.M.) (Circa 1290 ?).

¹ The rest unreadable.

² 1595-1342 A.D.

³ Hugh de Tymor, deceased before 21 Ed. I. (1293 A.D.); vide "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 256. He acted as coroner. It is stated in a Plea Roll of 47 H. III. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 156) that William de Tymore, the father of Hugh, was still living (1263 A.D.). William de Tymore is said by Shaw to have been the son of Godard and Petronilla le Sage.

⁴ (Plea Rolls, 10 Ed. I.) The Prior of St. Thomas and Thomas Meverell, of Gayton, were charged with depriving R. le Parker of eighty acres of wood and waste in Charteley. They proved that this land was in Gayton, and theirs by feofment of Robert de Ferrara, formerly Earl of Derby. (Vide "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 152.)

GRINLEY (IN DROINTON).

*"Ex dono Roberti de Ferrars unam acram terre in 'Grinley.'"*¹

"Ex dono aliorum particulas terre ibidem."

Omnibus Xti. fidelibus hoc p. scriptum visuris vel auditoris, Willielmus filius Galfridi de Warilowe de Greneleye, salutem in Domino. Noveritis me remisisse, relaxasse, et omnino pro me et heredibus meis quietum clamasse Priori et conventui Sancti Thome m̃ris juxta Stafford, et eorum successoribus, totum jus et clamium quod habeo, vel aliquo modo habere potui, in totâ illâ placeâ terre cum pertinentiis et commoditatibus suis in Greneleye, quam predicti Prior et conventus habent et tenent in eâdem villâ. Ita videlicet quod nec ego, nec heredes mei, nec aliquis pro nobis aut nomine nostro, aliquid juris, &c. (Warranty.) Hiis testibus: Phelippo de Chetewynde, Johanne de Aston, Magistro Ada de Derleye, clerico, Johanne de Hodenet, de Weston, Radulpho le Parker de Carteleye, et aliis. (S.D.) (Philipp's MS. 7937.)

Omnibus has literas, &c., visuris, &c. Frater Nich., Prior Sancti Thome m. juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventus, eternam in Domino salutem. Noverit, &c., nos dedisse, &c., Ricardo fabro, Sagitario de Greneleye, pro homagio et servicio suo, quandam placeam more nostre juxta Blithe apud Greneley, cum pertinentiis suis in feodo de Drengeton, jacentem inter le "Stonibroc" et messuagium dicti Ricardi et heredum, &c. Tenend., &c., de nobis, &c., hereditario in perpetuum. Reddendo inde annuatim nobis et successoribus nostris quatuor denarios ad duos anni terminos, &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Willielmo le Wodeward de Greneley, Galfrido de Warilowe, Thoma de Stinenton in Drengeton, Thoma filio Ade de eadem, Ricardo Parcario de Certeley, Willielmo clerico, et aliis. (Philipp's MS. 7937.)

HALUGHTON (HAUGHTON).

"Ex dono Milane et Phil., filii Philippi Nugent, heredis ejus, dim. virg. terre in Halughton."

"Sciant, &c., quod ego Milana,² et Philippus de Nugent, heres meus, concessimus et in puram et perpetuam elemosynam dedimus Deo et glorioso martyri Thome de Stafford, et canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus, dimidiam virgatam terre in Halctona, quam Willielmus, filius Edrici, tenuit de nobis; pro salute nostrâ, et pro animâ Philippi de Nugent, &c. Hiis testibus; Nicholao fratre Rogeri filii Henrici, Philippo de Estonâ, Willielmo de Bromsulf, Michaele de Ocebroc. (Walter Chetwynd.)

Another copy of this grant, quoted by Erdeswicke in 506 Harl. MSS. B.M., ends thus: "Sigill' de R. de Darcliff roboravi coram conventu de Hagemon."

Sciant tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Philippus fil. (sic) filius³ Episcopi, pro salute anime mee, et meorum, concessi in perpetuam elemosynam Deo et Sancto martyri Thome de Stafford, et fratribus ibidem commorantibus, donacionem quam Stephanus de Davenepore fecit eis de terrâ que idem Stephanus de me tenuit in Halecthon. Concessi igitur ut predicti teneant eam dictam terram de me et heredibus meis libere, &c., reddendo duos solidos ad festum Sancti Michaelis, &c., et pro hac concessione dederunt mihi

¹ Grindley, a hamlet lying about a mile to the east of Chartley, and near the "Blythe."

² This was among the earlier grants to St. Thomas, Gerard son of Brien being witness to a somewhat later deed, a confirmation of this gift, by Philip de Nugent. (*Vide infra*.)

³ The first "filius" appears to be a slip of the scribe.

dimidiam marcam argenti. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Thoma¹ Vice-comite, Thomâ de (torn and destroyed) . . . Kersewelle, Nicholao et Waltero de Salt, Roberto filio Amiun, Willielmo Urso, Ricardo de Bellintun, Gerardo filio Brien, Willielmo fratre ejus, Roberto de Westun, Ricardo de Aluredestun, Radulpho de Lundun, Willielmo filio Turchil, et multis aliis. (Circa 1185 A.D.) (Philipps' MS. 7896.)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Stephanus de Davenepoort pro salute anime mee, et meorum, concessione Philippi, filii Episcopi, domini mei, dedi in liberam, &c., elemosinam Deo et sancto Thome martyri de Stafford, et canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus terram in Halecthon, quam ego de dicto Philippo tenui, cum omnibus libertatibus et pertinentiis suis: scilicet ut prescripti canonici predictam terram teneant &c., &c., quod ego inde facere annuatim debui predicto Philippo ipsi faciant. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Thoma filio Noel (!) Vice-comite. (The other witnesses are the same as in the previous deed.) (The deed is well written and early.) (Philipps' MS. 7896.)

Sciant tam p. quam f. quod ego Bertramus,² filius Bertrami de Bourkh (Burgh), dedi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., pro salute anime mee, et meorum, in liberam, &c., elemosinam, redditum duorum solidorum, quos solebam annuatim precipere de eisdem canonicis, pro terrâ quam de me tenuerunt, &c., ex dono Stephani de Davenepoort in Halecthon; tenendum, &c., libere, &c., in perpetuum (warranty), et renunciavi et quietum clamavi, pro me et heredibus meis, omne jus vel clamium si quid habui, vel habere potui, in predictâ terrâ de Halecthon. Hiis testibus: Domino Roberto de Halecton, Domino Roberto de Knittelegh, Domino Johanne de Acton, militibus, Jordano de Hextall, Ricardo de Hintes,³ Thoma de Oune, Willielmo de Onne, et aliis. (Philipps, MS. 7896.)

Sciant tam p. quam f. quod ego Philippus de Nugent, filius Philippi, dedi, concessi, &c., in puram, &c., elemosinam, Deo et glorioso martyri Thome de Stafford, dimidiam virgatam terre in Halecthona, quam Willielmus, filius Edrici, de matre meâ, et de me, tenuit, cum eodem servicio quod matri mee, et mihi, inde faciebat, pro salute nostrâ, et pro animâ Philippi de Nugent, et omnium parentum et antecessorum nostrorum, liberam et quietam ab omni servicio quod ad nos pertinuit. Et quia hanc concessionem ratam et in perpetuum valituram manere volumus, impressione sigilli mei roboravi, &c. Hiis testibus: Nicholao filio Henrici, Galfrido Pecchet, Nicholao de Mutton, Magistro Roberto, Ada et Willielmo de Withegreve, Willielmo⁴ clerico de Stafford. Philippo de Eston, Willielmo de Bromsulf, Michael de Occobroc, Gerardo filio Briani, Willielmo filio Turchil, Willielmo filio Ailward, et multis aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7896.)

HOPTUN.

"*Ex dono Alicie de Hoptun totam terram arabilem de Blackhull.*"
—"*Ex dono Roberti de Bec diversas terras.*"—"*Ex dono Galfridi le Bec totam terram suam.*"—"*Ex dono aliorum diversas terras in Hoptun.*"

Alicia de Hoptun, assensu Roberti de Bek filii mei, et heredis mei, dedi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, pro animâ Leticie, uxoris predicti filii mei, tres acras terre, que jacent inter "Heibure" (Heibrome) et "Blackhull," juxta terram canonicis pertinentem. Hiis testibus: Eudone de Mutton, Radulpho de

¹ Thomas Noel was Sheriff from 1185-1189 A.D.

² Bertram son of Bertram de Burgh is party to a suit of 10 E. I. (1282 A.D.). ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI.)

³ Richard de Hintes, 1248 A.D. (Final Concords, "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 240.)

⁴ Occurs in 1194 A.D., attesting the Drayton conveyance to St. Thomas.

Mutton, Philippo fratre ejus, Roberto de Beke, Galfrido fratre ejus, Gilberto, filio Roberti de Beke, Pagano de Wastneys. (B.M. and Walter Chetwynd.) *Circa John, late ?*

Alicia de Hoptun, assensu heredum meorum, dedi Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, totam terram arrabilem de "Blackhull," ab oriente vie de Westone, et ab eadem ad "Hehebromesiche," et inde ad "Chowsiche," ad includendam, et pasturam ex eadem villâ ad ducentos oves, et viginti vaccas, &c. Hiis testibus: Nicholao, Waltero, Roberto, et Eudone de Salt. (B.M. and Walter Chetwynd.)

Alicia de Hoptun, assensu Roberti heredis mei, dedi &c., Deo, &c., totam terram meam arrabilem de Superiore "Blackhul," ab oriente vie quâ itur a Stafford ad Weston, et a vertice dicti "Blackhull" usque ad "Hehebrome," et exinde usque ad "Cowsiche," totam terram que inter jacet, et pasturam a villâ de Hoptun, et a "Wydden" usque ad aquam de Trenttam, in bosco quam in plano, ad 20 vaccas et 200 oves. (B.M.) (This seems identical with the grant preceding, only fuller in detail.)

Omnibus Xfi fidelibus hoc p. scriptum visuris vel auditoris, Domina Orabilla,¹ uxor quondam Roberti de Bek, salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me, in legitimâ potestate meâ, concessisse, et in perpetuum quietum clamasse, Priori et conventui Sancti Thome, pro salute animin mee, et pro animâ dicti Roberti viri mei, totum jus et clameum quod habui, &c., nomine dotis in omnibus terris, redditibus, &c., que habuerunt ex dono dicti Roberti de Bek, quondam viri mei, et Domini Galfridi fratris ejus, dom. in Hoptun. In cujus rei, &c. (Seal.) Hiis testibus; Domino Willielmo de Kaverswalle,² tunc Vice-comite Stafford, Domino Galfrido le Beek, et Waltero Cardun (?), Roberto de Brock, Magistro Ricardo, rectore ecclesie de Gretewich, Willielmo de Pencriz, clerico, et aliis. (Philippus' MS. 7972.) (1260-1269 A.D.)

Universis Xfi fidelibus Willielmus, filius Petri de la Holt, salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me, divine pietatis intuitu, dedisse, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, et Domino Nicholao, Priori, et Conventui, &c., pro salute anime mee et meorum, in puram, &c., elemosinam, redditum duodecim denariorum, quos idem Prior mihi reddere solebat pro terrâ Nicholai de la Bruere, quam de me tenuit. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Domino Willielmo de Kaverswall, Domino Philippo de Chetwynd, Domino Johanne Touchet, Roberto de Hagenegate, Nicholao la Bruere, &c. Data anno Gratie apud Sanctum Thomam Millesimo ducentesimo septuagesimo primo (1271 A.D.) (Philippus' MS. 7912.)

A French letter of Prior Richard (6 E. II.) to Richard de Draycot: "For that I have granted to Joanna, who was the wife of my son Philip, the rent and services which you are wont to pay and render me for my tenements in Hoptun; therefore you are to pay the surplus to Joanna, yearly, in virtue of these letters. (1313 A.D.) (Philippus' MSS. 7912.)

Patent Rolls, 21 E. III. (1347-48 A.D.) M. 16. Letters Patent reciting that "Whereas the King had heretofore by his letters patent granted leave, for himself and his heirs, to the Prior and Convent of 'St Thomas' near Stafford, that they might acquire £10 worth of land³ and rent by the year, as well in their own fee as in that of a stranger (lands held of the King *in capite* alone excepted), to have and to hold for ever, notwithstanding the Statute of Mortmain, therefore the King now gives licence to *Robert le Beek* that he may give and assign to the same Prior, and Convent, 16 acres of land and 4 acres of meadow with appurtenances in Hoptun; and to Hugh le

¹ Orabell married three times, her second husband was one of the Draycotes, and her third William Wyther. (*Vide Pica Rolls*, "Staffordshire Historical Collections, Vol. VII., p. 81), &c.

² Sheriff in 44-5, and in 53 H. III. (1260-1269 A.D.)

³ This permission is among the Philipps' MSS.

White of Hughtesdon (Hixon), and Roger atte Lowe of Hixon, Chaplain, that they may give the Priory 3 acres of meadow and 5 of pasture in Penderford, valued yearly at a rent of 5s. To have and to hold the said lands to the value as of 1 mark, in part satisfaction of the £10 worth of land aforesaid. Reserving to the chief lords the services due and wont. (Done at Redyng, 10th July.) (s. "William Salt Library.")

Galfridus¹ le Bec, rector ecclesie de Chekkeley, concessi Deo et Sancti Thome ecclesie terram meam in villā de Hoptun, illam scilicet quam Alicia,² quondam domina de Hoptun, quondam Roberto, fratri meo, pro servicio suo contulit. Hiis testibus: Domino Roberto³ Barone de Stafford, Domino Willielmo de Hyda (Bagot), milite, &c. (Circa 1245 A.D.) (Walter Chetwynd's MSS. Notes.)

Dominus Willielmus Trussell, assensu et consensu Domine Margerie⁴ uxoris ejus, concessit Priori et conventui Sancti Thome, juxta Stafford, quidquid juris habuit ratione dotis dicte Domine Margerie in totam placeam terre juxta Hayam de Hopton, quam Robertus de Becco eis dedit cum corpore suo, &c. Teste, Nicholao Meverell, &c. [Walter Chetwynd.]

[HAIWODE v. COLTON.]

INGESTRE.

"Ex dono Eudonis de Mutton sex acras terre in Ingestre."

Eudo de Mutton⁵ omnibus hominibus suis, Francis et Anglicis, salutem. Sciat, tam presentes quam futuri, me concessisse, et in puram et perpetuam elemosinam dedisse, libere et quiete ab omni seculari servitio, Deo et glorioso martyri Thome de Stafford, et canonicis ibidem Deo servantibus, cui me ipsum vivum et mortuum redidi, sex acras terre in Ingestre, scilicet 2 in Colbrondes-croft, et 2 in "Sartohethway," et 2 in "Helholte," cum consensu et assensu Aalins uxoris mee, et Radulfi heredis mei, et aliorum heredum, pro salute anime mee, et predecessorum meorum et parentum meorum, et pro predicta domus orationibus et fraternitate de . . . Hiis testibus: Nicolao de Mutton, Gerardo de Stafford, Ivone, Galfrido, Philippo, Petro, filiis domini, et aliis. (Chetwynd Cartulary, and B.M.) (Circa 1180 A.D. †)

Radus de Mutton dedi Deo et Scii Thome, &c., totum jus quod habui in territorio quod pater meus, Eudo de Mutton, eis cum corpore suo donavit in territorio de Ingestre, scilicet 2 acras in "Colbronds-croft" de 9 selionibus, et 2 in "Sartohethway," de 7 selionibus, et 2 in "Helholte" de 5 selionibus, &c. (B.M.)

19 E. I. Nicholas Prior of St. Thomas makes an agreement concerning lands near Ingestre Park. Witnessed by Richard and Robert de Wolseley, Sir William Meverell, and Walter de Hanyate. (Walter Chetwynd.) (1291 A.D.)

KINESBROC.⁶

Sciant tam p. quam f., tam Franci. quam Angli., quod Ego Alanus de Haheniate, et heredes mei, concessimus et dedimus Deo et Sancte Marie et

¹ Alicia held the Manor temp. King John; it seems that Geoffrey le Bec, her nominee, continued rector for a long period.

² If I am correct, this Robert must be Robert de Stafford (IV.), who succeeded his brother Harvey in the barony A.D. 1240.

³ Margaret Trussell was Gilbert de Beck's widow; he was dead in 31 H. III. (1247 A.D.). William Trussell was her second husband. (Vide "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VII., p. 81.)

⁴ This Eudo (Ivo) de Mutton subsequently became a lay brother in the Priory of St. Thomas (Chetwynd's "Pirehill," p. 71), leaving his lands to his son Sir Ralph.

⁵ Adjoining St. Thomas' Priory, between Stafford and Tixall, but here classed with the latter, being in the hands of Tixall land owners.

Sancto Thome de Stafford, et fratribus ibidem, Deo servientibus, pro salute anime mee, et uxoris mee, et antecessorum meorum, in puram et perpetuam elemosinam, totam terram meam apud Kinesbroc, scilicet a foveâ que est in capite culture usque in aquam de Kinesbroc, et de aquâ, et de gistâ¹ aque quantum ad me pertinet, libere et quiete ab omni servicio possidendam. Et ut hec donacio rata et inconvulsa permaneat, &c., eam presenti scripto, et sigilli mei attestatiône corroboravi. Hiis testibus: Roberto de Copenhale, Godwino de Bradele, Adâ de Bradele, Nicholao de Stafford, sacerdotibus. Roberto de Weston, Roberto de Salt, Willielmo et Johanne de Witegreve, clericis, Willielmo clerico de Stafford, Eudone de Mutton, Radulpho de Mutton, Gerardo de Stafford, Nicholao de Tuggefod, Reinaldo filio Edwini, Willielmo de Bromsulf, Stepheno de Davenport. (Philipp's MS. 7296.) (1174-82 A.D.)

Alanus de Hachengate omnibus hominibus suis et amicis, Francis et Anglicis, salutem. Sciant tam p. quam f., me et heredes meos Deo et Sancto Thome martyri de Stafford, et canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus, dedisse in puram et perpetuam elemosinam culturam meam apud "Kinesbroc" infra duas vias ab unâ foveâ ad aliam, libere, &c., possidendam. Et ut hec donacio rata sit, et stabilis et inconvulsa consistat, eam sigilli mei munimine confirmavi. Hiis testibus: Radulpho (Roberto?) de Coppenhale, Gilberto clerico de Weston, Godwino de Bradele, et Adâ de Bradele, sacerdotibus; Rodberto de Selt, Willielmo de Witegrave, et Johanne et Nicholao presbitero, et Willielmo clerico de Stafford, Eudone de Mutton (rest as above), &c. (Philipp's MS. 7296.)

Sciant tam p. quam f., quod ego Hugo de Hagenhiate concessi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome de Stafford, in liberam, puram, et p. elemosinam, donationem quam Alanus, pater meus, eis fecit de terrâ suâ apud Kynesbrock. Scilicet, a fossatâ que est in capite culture usque ad aquam de Kinesbroc, et de aquâ et de gistâ aque quantum ad feudum suum pertinuit, libere, &c., tenend. ab omni seculari servitio. Et pro hac concessione, &c., meâ dederunt michi prefati cononici decem solidos argenti, et ut hec. (Usual confirmation and seal.) Hiis testibus: Nicholao de Mutton, Thoma de Kerswalle, Waltero de Salt, Hugone sacerdote de Sancto Ceadda, Willielmo clerico de Stafford, Ricardo filio Thome, Ricardo filio Horbrithtonâ, Hernaldo filio Geri, Waltero fratre ejus, Bernardo de Horbrithona, Johanne Coco, Symone de Bedeforde, Adâ clerico, et multis aliis. (Philipp's MS. 7296.)

(These three deeds are beautifully written, the last especially, in a remarkably clear hand.)

LEVEDALE, PART OF PENKRIDGE

Omnibus Xti fidelibus p. scriptum v. vel aud., Frater N. Prior Sancti Thome in juxta Stafford, et ejus loci humilis (sic) conventus, salutem in Dño. Noverit universitas vestra nos dedisse, &c., Thome, filio Walteri de "Longeruge," duas acras terre in territorio de *Levedale* pro homagio et servicio suo, illas scilicet quas Willielmus frater suus nobis dedit in liberam, p. et perpetuam elemosinam. Habendas et tenendas de nobis et successoribus nostris libere, &c. Reddendo inde annuatim nobis, &c., in festum Sancti Michaelis duodecim denarios argenti, et capitali domino feodi unum denarium pro omni seculari servicio, salvo vero nobis croppo (sic) anni presentis supradictis dualibus acris terre existente. (If rent is unpaid, the land is to revert to the Priory.) (Sealed.) Hiis testibus: Hugone de Levedale, Roberto de eâdem, Willielmo serviente de Pencriz, Thoma de Bortun, Roberto de Bonger, et aliis. Die Nativitatis Sancti Johannis Bapt., anno Domi. 1259 A.D. (Philipp's MS. 8059.)

Walterus, filius Godwini, Robto de Beke dimidiam virgatam terre in Levedale, quam Galfridus *Lufricke* tenuit. (B.M.)

Robertus de Beke Deo et Scti Thome ecclesie, &c., eandem virgatam terre. (B.M.)

¹ "Gista aque" = jet d'eau. (Gallic'.)

LICHFIELD.

"*Ex dono Galfridi Poun 20 solidos de molendino suo juxta Lichfield.*"
 —"*Ex dono Roberti de Freford molendinum de Eytinton juxta Lichfield;*" "*cum diversis redditibus et burgagiis, ex donis aliorum.*"

Stowe juxta Lichfield.

Robertus de Firford (Freeford), Deo, &c., totam terram de Stowe, extra vilam de Lichfield, quam teneo de Galfrido Poun, pro termino annorum. (B.M.)

Inter Philippum priorem S. Thome et Galfridum Poun, de molendini et terre de Stowe concessione Deo, &c., scilicet de una carucatâ terre, et uno molendino, &c., unde Prior relaxavit predicto Galfrido, &c., et Galfribus Poun dedit viginti solidos annui redditus in perpetuum et 12 marcas argenti. (B.M.) (Circa 1225 A.D.)

Ricardus, filius Radulphi aurifabri de Lichfield, Deo, &c., dimidiam libram cumini. (B.M.)

Willielmus de Honesworth Deo et Sancti Thome, &c., duodecim denarios annui redditus in Lichfield, de medietate burgagii Jacobi Tapp, que propinquior est terre Willielmo de Stafford. (B.M.)

R. Marescallus¹ de Rushall, pro animâ Domini mei Ricardi Episcopi, et animâ meâ, dedi Deo et Scti Thome, &c., in Lichfield. (B.M.)

Robertus de Fireford, Deo, &c., burgagium quod emi de Waltero Redpistul. (B.M.)

MERCINTON.

Robertus Oweyn, filius Thome Oweyn de Mercinton Henrico de Holintone pro homagio et servicio suo 2 acras terre quas habui de donô Wilmi de Ferrars, comitis Derby, et continent a bosco Roberti de Mortone hominis mei, &c. Hiis testibus: Dño Hugone de Meynill, milite, Henrico de Hornheli, Rogero de Dounes, Waltero Camerario, Willielmo Tok, Roberto Engenulf, Willielmo le Chaundoys. (B.M.)

MERE ET ASTON.

"*Ex dono Alexandri de Mere totum jus suum in ecclia de Mere.*"
 —"*Ex dono Roberti de Mere quartam partem patronatûs ecclie de Mere.*" —"*Ex dono Eudonis de Mere medietatem patronatûs ecclie de Mere.*"

Omnibus has literas visuris, vel audituris, Dñs Thomas de Dutton, et Dnâ Philippa² uxor ejus, salutem. Noveritis nos concessisse, &c., donacionem quam Thomas³ rector ecclesie de Standon, fecit Nicholao Priori Sancti Thome juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, de homagio, redditibus, releviis, wardis, exactis, et aliis serviciis, et consuetudinibus, ad ipsum Thomam, rectorem ecclesie de Standon, ratione dominii terr. et tent. de Mere et Aston, quod idem Thomas nobis donavit, spectantibus, secundum tenorem carte, quam de ipso Thome habemus, unde volumus et concedimus pro nobis et heredibus

¹ The Mareschals of Rushall occur again in the Assize Rolls. (See "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 198.)

² In 11 E. I., 1287 A.D., Tho. de Dutton and Philippa are among the four coparceners of Mere. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 155.)

³ Philippa is identical with Philippa, eldest daughter of Vivian de Staundon. (Vide deed subsequent.)

⁴ Occurs in a suit of 3 E. I., 1279 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., pp. 54, 92.) Thomas de Mere was his full name.

nostris quod dicti Prior et conventus, et eorum successores, homagium prenommatum de nobis, et heredibus nostris, habeant et pacifice possideant in perpetuum. (B.M.) (*Circa* 1280 A.D.)

Sciant, &c., Hugo de Dutton, Willielmo filio meo, quartam partem totius ville de Mere et Aston, quam Vivianus de Standon dedit in liberum maritagium Thome patri meo cum Philippâ matre meâ. Reddendo mihi et heredibus meis duodecim sagittas barbattas. Hiis testibus: Rogero, Priori de Nortun, Domino Willielmo de Venables, Dño Johanne de Sancto Petro, Dño Edmundo Fitton, militibus, Alexandro Baumvyle, Petro de Dutton, Willielmo Gerarde. (B.M.)

(Erdeswicke has inserted this deed, and though it does not concern St. Thomas, it may be well to let it stand for its bearing on the descent, as well as on the "property" of Dutton.)

Eudo¹ de Mere, &c., Deo, &c., totam terram de Colstaffe que mea fuit, quam Adam, filius Ade de Chetwynd, dedit mihi pro homagio et servicio meo, reddendo Domino Johanni Chetwynde et heredibus suis octo denarios, &c. (B.M.)

Eudo de Mere Deo, &c., totam partem meam que est in "Colle" inter "Apetunesway" et Willielmum de Mere, quam habui de Hugone de Waleford, reddendo Hugoni de Waleford 4 ferra ad palfridum suum ad ferrandum, &c. (B.M.)

Eudo de Mere, Deo, &c., totam partem meam in Colle inter Apeteswaye, &c. (ut supra), que habui de Waltero, filio Rogeri de Chorleton, reddendo quatuor ferra, &c. (B.M.)

Eudo de Mere, Deo, &c., medietatem patronatûs de Mere. (B.M.)

Eudo de Mere, Deo, &c., totum doninium meum in Mere, et capitale messuagium meum de Mere, cum pomerio et (h)orto, et cum edificiis, et cum bosco, et vivario, et piscariâ, et pratis, et pascuis, et aliis commodis et libertatibus ad dictum dominium pertinentibus. Reddendo unum par calcarum deanratorum, vel sex denarios, &c. (B.M.)

Eudo de Mere, Deo, &c., unam virgatam in Mere, quam Petrus tenuit de me, &c. (B.M.)

Eudo de Mere, Deo, &c., sex acras terre in Mere juxta terram Roberti de Waleford, reddendo Helie de Chorleton duodecim denarios, &c. (B.M.)

Philippus Prior Sancti Thome, Nicolao, filio Petri de Mere, virgatam terre quam habuit de Eudone de Mere. (Walter Chetwynd.)

Eudo de Mere, Deo, et S. Thome, &c., terram quam tenui de ecclesiâ de Chorleton, reddendo quatuor denarios ad festum Sancti Laurentii in ecclesiâ de Chorleton super altare, &c. (B.M.)

Alexander² de Mere, Deo, &c., totum jus patronatûs quod habui in ecclesiâ de Mere, &c. (B.M.)

Robertus de Mere, Deo et S. Thome, &c., quartam partem patronatûs ecclesie de Mere, &c. (35 H. III.) (1251 A.D.) (B.M.)

Alexander³ de Mere remisi Philippo, Priori Sancti Thome, &c., jus in toto tenemento quod Eudo de Mere eis dedit in villâ de Mere, pro hac autem donatione, &c., dedit predicti prior, &c., mihi et compartibus meis, scilicet Roberto de Mere, et Warino⁴ de Ferrars et Alicie uxori ipsius Warini de Ferrars decem marcas. (B.M.)

¹ Flourished *circa* 1180-1200 A.D.

² Named as coparcener of Mere, 1236 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 230.)

³ Warine de Ferrars in 1210 Assize Rolls.

Sciant, &c., quod ego Warinus de Ferrars, et Alicia uxor mea, Priori et conventui Sancti Thome (ut supra). (B.M.)

Robertus de Mere¹ Priori S. Thome, remisit totum jus in tenemento quod Eudo de Mere eis dedit in Mere, pro hac dedit mihi (ut supra). (B.M.)

Willielmus de Befurd, Eudoni de Mere, cognato meo, totum jus meum quod habui in ecclesiâ de Mere, scilicet quartam partem advocacionis ecclesie ejusdem, cum pertinentiis, &c. (B.M.)

Thomas (i.e., Thomas de Mere), Rector de Standon, Philippe, filie Domini Viviani de Standon, primogenite, et heredi de se provenienti, pro bono servicio suo, totam terram in Mere et Aston, quam emi de Aliciâ, uxore Warini de Ferrars, reddendo duos solidos, et pro defectu heredum de corpore Philippe, ad Thomam fratrem suum revertat, et pro defectu heredum de corpore Thome, Viviano fratri suo juniore, et pro defectu ad alios fratres suos. (B.M.)²

Henricus, filius Willielmi forestarii de Witemere, Deo et Conventui Sancti Thome, &c., homagium Helie,³ filii Thome de Chorleton, et heredum suorum, cum duobus solidis redditûs; et homagium Willielmi filii Sweyn, et heredum suorum cum octo denariis redditus. (B.M.)

MERSHTON.

(3 H. V. 1416 A.D.)

The Prior and Convent of St. Thomas⁴ purchased, with the royal license, of the Prior and Convent of Shene, one messuage and twenty acres of land in Stafford and Mershton, which were held of the said Priory of Shene as parcell of the manor of Mersthun (Walter Chetwynd's Notes) 3 H. V., 1416 A.D.

ORBERTON.⁵

"*Ex dono Ricardi Geri quandam domum in villâ de Erbertun, et totum dominium tenementi nostri, et omnium meorum in Orberton in Wytegreve*" (sic).

"*Ex dono Tho. fil. Willi. de Orberton unum messuagium cum curtilagio.*"

—"Ex dono Ric. fil. Gilberti de Orberton totam partem terre sue."

—"Ex dono Ric. Geri 22 acras terre."—"Ex dono Rob. de Orberton dim. virg. terr."—"Ex dono aliorum divers terr., &c., in villâ de Orbreton."

Omnibus amicis et hominibus, presentibus et futuris, Francis et Anglicis, Robertus de Beke, dominus de Hoptun, salutem. Confirmo Deo et Sancti Thome ecclesie, &c., donacionem Roberti, filii Osberti de Erberton, et dimidiam virgatum in Erbertun, libere, &c., excepto servicio (B.M.). Previous to 1182.

¹ Robert de Mere was the son of Eudo (Chetwynd's "Pirhill").

² Late H. III., or early E. I. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vols. IV. and VI.)

³ Elias de Chorleton lived circa 1240 A.D.

⁴ The original deed is numbered among the Philipps' MSS., but could not be found when inquired for, having possibly been separately secured, because of the "seal" attached to it.

⁵ These notices of Orberton lands are taken from two distinct entries in the roll, divided probably by an error of the scribe; the description, "*in Orberton in Wytegreve*," is peculiar, and would suggest that "Worston" is the Orberton there meant, were it not that the same entry recurs in the second part. Mr. Clifford's opinion that "Orbertun" and Worston are identical, is untenable, for they were distinct prebends of St. Mary's, Stafford. (Vide "Valor Ecclesiasticus" and Charity Com-

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Ricardus, filius Ricardi filii Gilberti de Orbertona, dedi Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, pro salute anime mee, et meorum antecessorum et heredum, totum servitium Johannis avunculi mei, filii Gilberti de Orbertona; scilicet sex denarios per annum ad festum Sancti Michaelis, et tres gallinas ad natale Domini, et ipsum Johannem et heredes suos, et terram ejus ex toto assignavi prefate ecclesie, et canonicis prenomatis in perpetuum. Dedi et predictis ecclesie et canonicis unam acram terre, que est inter terram predictorum Canonicorum et dimidiam acram quam Ricardus, filius Radulphi, de supranominatis canonicis tenuit; et unam dimidiam acram que est inter Ruhe "laine" (or "lawe") et le Coppede "grene" (or "greve"), tenendas et habendas de me, &c., quiete ab omni seculari servitio. Pro hac donacione dederunt mihi octo solidos premanibus. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Domino Albino Cancellario de Hereford, Eudone de Mere, Roberto de Wethelesbirth, Johanne de Saut, Roberto de Holeford, Waltero del Hanyate, Rogero, Willielmo, &c., de Haywood. (Circa 1220 A.D.) Philipps' MS. 7918.)

PENFORD.

"*Ex dono Johñs de Penford totum manerium suum de Penford.*"—

"*Ex dono Rādi de Bushbury totum mariscum de Penford et Bispesbury.*"—"Ex dono Rādi de Borgo molendinum de Pendeford."

Sciant, &c., quod ego Johannes dominus de Pendeford, filius Roberti de Pendeford, dedi, &c., Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, totum manerium meum de Pendeford, sine aliquo retenimento preter orationes predictorum fratrum in perpetuum, &c. Testibus: Dominis Willielmo de Caverswall, Philippo de Chetwynd, Hugone de Weston, militibus, Radulpho de Burgo, &c. (6 E. I., 1277-78.)

Omnibus, &c., Rogerus de Somery, filius Domini Rogeri de Somery, &c. Noveritis me concessisse, &c., Fratri Nicholao Priori Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, &c., liberum et quietum ingressum in toto manerio de Pendeford, quod habuerunt ex dono Johannis de Pendeford, &c. Testibus: Nicholao Seggrave,¹ Willielmo Bagot, Willielmo de Caverswall, Bertramo de Burgo, militibus, Persevallo de Somery, fratre meo, Johanne de Eton,² Radulpho de Bissopesbury, Johanne Russell, Waltero de Elmedon,³ Ricardo de Barrā, et aliis. (Huntbach MS.)

Sciant, &c., quod ego Radulphus de Coven,⁴ filius Roberti de Pendeford, remisit, &c., Nicholao Priori Sancti Thome, &c., totum jus in manerio de

missioners' Reports.) "Orberton was in the hands of the Bekes, and always reputed part of Hopton Manor." (*Vide* Walter Chetwynd.) From the description given in Payne de Wastiney's Tixall grant to St. Thomas, I gather that Orberton lay between the Priory and Hopton, not very far from "Kingston Cover" (Ordnance Survey). It has apparently been absorbed in Coton, and in the parish that joins Coton on the east and north-east. [N.B. Robert de Orberton's rights affected the mill and mill pool on *Kinesbroc*; *vide* Bp. R. Peche's Charter.]

¹ Huntbach MS., quoted by Mr. Bridgeman, "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., p. 318. For the text of this, and the two following deeds, I am indebted to General Wrottesley.

² Occurs in 8 E. I.

³ End of H. III., and 21 E. I.

⁴ End of H. III., and 21 E. I.

⁵ This Ralph de Coven was brother of John, the original grantor. Coven was a manor, belonging to Brewood parish. For further particulars, Mr. Bridgeman's account should be consulted.

Pendeford, &c. Testibus: Johanne Giffard, milite, Roberto de Somerford, &c. (Huntbach, MS.)¹

PENILTON AND SWENESHURST.

Sciant, &c., quod ego Robertus de Ferrariis, filius et hæres Dñi Willm̃i de Ferrariis, quondam comitis Derb., dedi et concessi, &c., in plenariâ et legitimâ potestate meâ, Deo et glorioso Martyri Scto Thome, et Ecclesiæ suæ juxta Stafford, et fratribus meis fratri Nicolao Priori, et Conventui, ejusdem ecclesiæ pro anima meâ, et pro animabus antecessorum et successorum meorum, ad pietanciam² dictorum fratrum meorum, manerium de "Sweneshurst" et del "Walneys" juxta Saltford, cum pertinentiis suis, et cum molendino super Yrewell sito, stagno, cursu aque, totâ sectâ dicti molendini, et villam de "Penilton," cum omnibus villanis villenagium ipsius ville tenentibus, et omnibus catallis et sequelis eorum. Tenenda et habenda sibi, et successoribus suis, libere et quiete, bene et in pace, in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosynam, tam in dominiciis quam in homagiis serviciis et consuetudinibus, cum boecis, planis, pratis, pascuis, pasturis, aquis, moris, marisciis, commodis, aziamentis et rebus ad predictum manerium et cetera predicta pertinentibus in omnibus rebus, et locis, sicut ego, vel pater meus, liberius et plenius dictum manerium de Sweneshurst et del Walneys cum ceteris predictis tenuimus; ita quidem quod dicti Priori et conventus, et eorum successores, possint sine impedimento mei, vel alicujus heredum meorum, molendina et stagna construere, asservare (1) fossare, et undique proficuum suum de predico manerio cum suis pertinentiis facere, sicut ego liberius et plenius possim si dictum manerium retinerem, quiete ab omni servitio, consuetudine, secta curiarum, et omnimodis secularibus exactionibus rebus et demandis. Nihil mihi seu heredibus meis in predictis inde ulterius retinendo in perpetuum preter orationes predictorum fratrum meorum. Dedi etiam eidem Priori et conventui, et eorum successoribus, pro me et heredibus meis, in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosynam, advocacionem Ecclesiæ del Stowe, subtus Chartley, cum pertinentiis in perpetuum. Insuper etiam dedi dictis Priori et Conventui, et eorum successoribus, "Husbote" et "Haybote," ad domos sibi faciendas, et reparandas, tam in capite quam in grangiis, et omnia alia necessaria in liberâ hayâ mea de "Huttokeshall," sine visu Forestariorum, et liberam pasturam in predictâ hayâ ad omnimoda averia sua singulis anni temporibus, exceptis capris. Dedi etiam et concessi predictis Priori, et Conventui, et eorum successoribus, pro me et heredibus meis, in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosynam, quod iidem omnes porcos suos ex nutrimento illorum provenientes in forestâ nostrâ de Nedwode quandocunque tempore pessone in perpetuum pacifice habeant quietos de pannagio, vel in prefata hayâ de Hutokeshall, cum voluerint, cum libero et

¹ For the probable cause of John de Pendeford's sale of his lands to St. Thomas, vide "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. V., p. 162, and note. "Being a sworn verderer of Cannock Forest, in 1276 A.D., he had appropriated venison, and rather than face the enquiry at law, went beyond seas." (General Wrottesley.)

21 E. I. (1293 A.D.) Agnes his widow recovered one-third of two parts of Pendeford Manor, as dower, *versus* the Prior of St. Thomas. (Vide Plea Rolls, "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 217.)

(N.B.)—If the date of John de Pendeford's grant is correct, it will be seen that St. Thomas had a still earlier interest here, for in 4 E. I. (1276) Alice wife of Thomas Payne sued the Prior for one-third of a messuage, two carucates of land, thirty acres of wood, and thirty of meadow in Pendeford (as her dower). ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 90.) The Priory acquired the manor before the Statute of Mortmain. (Vide suit 21 E. I.)

That St. Thomas had in 1347-48 three acres of meadow and five of pasture at Pendeford from Hugh le White and Roger at Lowe, of Hixon, valued at 5s. yearly rent. Vide *supra* sub Hopton. (Litt. "Patent" 21 E. II.)

² Pietancia = a portion of the monks' food. Rather *Pietancia* (from *pietas*). Vide under Weston-on-Trent.

quieto ingressu ad eandem, et egressu ab eadem, sine aliquo impedimento, seu aliqua exactione vel demandâ. Et ego Robertus, et heredes mei, predictum manerium cum pertinentiis, sicut predictum est, et predictam advocacionem, et cetera predicta, cum pertinentiis, dictis Priori et Conventui et eorum successoribus contra omnes gentes warrantizabimus, acquietabimus et defendemus in perpetuum; et ut hec mea donatio, concessio, et presentis cartæ meæ confirmatio robor firmitatis in perpetuum obtineat, presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus: Dño Radulpho Basset, Johanne de Soleney, Johanne Wauton, Thoma de Arderne, Galfrido de Chetham, militibus, Ada de Buri, Rogero de Penilbyri, Thoma de Prestwyk, Rogero de Verney, Willielmo de Brokesley, Ada de Parco, Ricardo de Teneray, Radulpho Barri, et aliis. Datum apud Sanctum Thomam juxta Stafford, in crastino Beati Thome Martyris² (1261 A.D.) (Philipps' MS. 7899.)

In 13 E. III., Henry Earl of Lancaster and Leicester, Steward of England, &c., grants to the Prior of St. Thomas twelve acres of heath in Saltford¹ and Pendleton, in recompense of the common of pasture which the said Priory had in the said heath. (Walter Chetwynd.)

1 H. IV. (1340 A.D., 4th June), twenty acres of land called "Bryndelache" in Salford, were granted on lease to the Prior and Convent of St. Thomas near Stafford at 6d. yearly rent, increased subsequently to 3s. 4d.³

[In 16 H. VI. the Prior and Convent were no longer tenants of it, but one Robert de Longley.] (49 R., D. K. Records, p. 528.)

M. 8, Patent Rolls, 23 Ed. I. (1294-95 A.D.), 18th August, the King confirms the grants made by Robert de Ferrars to the Prior and Convent of St. Thomas near Stafford of *eighteen messuages, twelve bovates, and one hundred and twenty acres of land, one toft, and one mill in Penylton*, which had been taken into the King's hands because the Prior and Convent had entered on the said premises without obtaining King H. III.'s licence.

Indenture between John Prior of St. Thomas near Stafford and the convent letting to Otywell Werrall, of Penilton (Pelton) in Lancashire, husbandman, certain lands in Pendleton. Dated 24th February, 18th year of King H. VIII. (1525). (Phillips' MS. 7899.)³

Omnibus Xti fidelibus, &c., Margareta de Workesley salutem in Domino. Noveritis me concessisse, dedisse, &c., Ricardo, Priori Sancti Thome m. juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, omnes terras et tenementa cum redditibus, &c., in "Penylton," "Newehalle," "Wodehouses," "Walneys," et "Swyneshurst," in comitatu Lancastr., que habui de concessione Domini Jonannis de Radecluf, persone de Burd, ad terminum annorum. Habenda et tenenda predictis Priori et Conventui et successoribus suis ita quod nec ego, predicta Margareta, nec heredes mei, nec aliquis nomine nostro, aliquid juris vel clamii in predictis terris et tenementis, &c., vindicare poterimus. In cujus rei, &c. (Sealed.) Hiis testibus: Ricardo de Venables, Jordano de Lauendene, Radulpho Colus (Coco?) Willielmo le Cotiler, Radulpho Swaniyld, et aliis. Datum apud Novum Castrum subtus Limam, die Lune proximo post festum Invencionis Sancte Crucis, 6 Ed. III. (1333 A.D.) (Philipps' MS. 7899.)

Omnibus Xti fidelibus h. p. scriptum visuris, &c., Agnes, quondam uxor David de Hulton, salutem. Noveritis me in purâ viduitate meâ, et in ligêâ potestate, redidisse et remisisse et quiete clamasse Fratri Ricardo Priori Sancti Thome m. juxta Stafford, &c., totum jus et clamium quod habui, &c., nomine dotis in omnibus terris, &c., in villâ de Penylton, et ceteris omnibus que coram Domino Hugone de Kressingham et Dñi Regis Justiciariis apud

¹ Penilton and Saltford are in the immediate neighbourhood of Manchester.

² December 29th was observed as St. Thomas' (of Canterbury) Day.

³ This reference was kindly supplied by Mr. de Mazzinghi.

Lancast. nomine dotis in villâ de Penylton recuperavi, dicto R. Priori, &c. Nichil inde mihi retinendo preter quadraginta et quatuor solidos annuos, &c. (Warranty and Seal.) Hiis testibus: Galfrido de Saltsted, Ricardo de Houlton, Johanne de Preswich, Henrico de Workesleye, Roberto filio Rogeri de Penylburi, et aliis. (1302 A.D.) (Philipps' MS. 7899.)

NEWTON (v. BLITHFIELD).

QUENTON.

"*Ex dono Dñi Philippi de Mutton oes terras quas tenuit de Roberto Marmion in Quyn-ton, co. Glouc.*"

Robertus Marmion, Philippo de Mutton, pro homagio et servicio suo, messuagium quod Hugo Cotemon tenet in villâ de Quenton, quod cepi in escambio de Galfrido, filio Marcarii (sic) fratre ejusdem Hugonis, &c. (Circa 1235 ?) (B.M.)

Philippus de Mutton dedi, cum corpore meo, Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, omnes terras quas habui in villâ de Quinton, quas dominus meus Robertus Marmion dedit mihi; reddendo inde dicto domino meo Roberto Marmion unum *sparvarium sorum*,¹ &c. (B.M.)

Sciant, &c., quod ego Ada de Mutton concessi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, &c., donationem totius terre in Queinton quam Philippus, frater meus, donavit, cum corpore suo, sicut idem Philippus eam melius et liberius tenuit de dono Roberti Marmion. Tenendam de me, et heredibus meis, libere et quiete in perpetuum. Hiis testibus: Dño Henrico de Audithlegh, R. de Mutton, &c. (B.M., and Walter Chetwynd.)

[e. CHETWYND CHARTULARY (temp. H. III.).]

Carta Prioris Scti Thome dño Ade de Mutton,² Om Xti. fidelibus, &c., Frater Philippus, dictus Priori Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, &c. Sciant universitas vestra nos concessisse Dño Ade de Mutton, et heredibus suis, presentationem unius Canonici in domo nostrâ in perpetuum, &c., ad celebrandum divina pro animâ Philippi de Mutton,³ fratris predicti Ade, et pro salute anime sue, et antecessorum et successorum suorum, &c. Hiis testibus: Dño Henrico de Audithlegh, Galfrido del Bec, Willielmo de Bromlegh, et aliis.

REWLE.

"*Ex dono Dñi Philippi Mutton,⁴ 1 carucat. in Rewle.*"

Nicholas de Stafford gives leave to Philip de Mutton to give to the Priory of St. Thomas one carucate in Rewle, and 4 virgates in Abbeton. Witnesses: William de Caverswall, William Bagod, and William de Stafford, Knights. (Walter Chetwynd's MSS. Notes.)

¹ That is a "*Sparrow-hawk of a year old*."

² Sir Adam de Mutton, Kt., deceased before 1242 A.D. (Vide "*Staffordshire Historical Collections*," Vol. VI., p. 19, note.)

³ The Philip de Mutton here named is not the same with the Philip of Abeton, donor of land there to St. Thomas, for Prior Philip lived in the first part of H. III's reign.

⁴ Vide Inquisitions, Vol. I., p. 195 (Salt Library), for the King's inquiry about this grant from Philip de Mutton to St. Thomas.

Sciant, &c., quod ego Isabella' de Chetwynd, quondam uxor Dñi Philippi de Chetwynd, mil., in purâ viduitate meâ, concessi et licentiam dedi Dño Philippo de Mutton, quod ipse unum messuagium et unam carucatam terræ in Rewel, et quatuor virgatas terre in Abbeton, &c., dare possit, et concedere Priori et Conventui Scti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, &c. Hiis testibus: Willielmo de Caverswall, Willielmo Bagod, Willielmo de Stafford, militibus, &c. (Walter Chetwynd.) (1285 A.D.)

(Carta Richardi Prioris Scti Thome, dicto Philippo) 26 E. I. Universis pateat per presentes quod nos Frater Ricus Prior Scti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventus, relaxavimus, &c., in perpetuum Philippo filio Dñi Phi. de Chetwynd et hæred suis, &c., totum jus et clamium quod unquam habuimus, vel quoque modo habere poterimus in uno messuagio, una carucata terr., et quinque acris bosci, cum omnibus suis pertinentiis, in Rewel; ita quod nec nos, &c. Aº R. R. Edwardi, filii Regis Henrici, xxvi. Hiis testibus: Dñis Roberto de Staundon, Willielmo de Stafford, Willielmo de Mere, Henrico de Cresswell, militibus, Henrico de Verdon, &c. (1298.)

RICARDSCOTE.²

"*Ex dono Reginaldi³ le Wete in prato vocato Brochacre, in Ricardscote.*"

Pateat universis quod nos Radulphum Comitem Stafford, concessisse et licentiam dedisse Roberto Priori Scti Thome, &c., quod acquietare sibi possint de Gulielmo de Lulleshull, Bakere, unum messuagium, unam dimid. virg. terr., et duodecim acras terre, et duas acras prati, cum pertinentiis que quondam fuerunt Roberti Solimon de Stafford, in Ricardscote. Habend., &c., per servicia inde debita, &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Dñis Tho. de Halecthon, Thoma de Swynerton, Nicholao de Beek, militibus; Roberto de Bowode, Hugone le Whyte de Hustesdon, Rogero de Onecote, &c., et aliis. Data apud manerium meum de "la Hyde," die Veneris proxima post festum Scti Gregorii Pape, 1353 A.D. (Philipps' MS. 7904.)

Pateat omnibus, &c., me Johannem de Stafford, militem, concessisse et licentiam dedisse Fratri Roberto Priori Scti Thome, &c., quod acquietare, &c.

¹ She was the daughter and heiress of the second Ralph de Mutton.

In 14 E. I. (1286 A.D.) Philip de Mutton was convicted of unjustly disseising the Prior of St. Thomas of his freehold in Rewell (Rule) near Gnoushall, viz., of one carucate of land and five acres of wood. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 162.)

"Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VII., p. 24. Richard, Prior of St. Thomas, sued Philip de Chetwynde for a messuage, one carucate, and five acres of wood in Rule, as the right of his church, in which Philip had no entry except by an intrusion made after the death of Philip de Mutton, to whom Nicholas de Aspeghe his predecessor, as Prior of St. Thomas, had demised these lands for life. Philip de Chetwynde said they were originally the lands of Ralph de Mutton his ancestor, whose heir he is, and were entailed on Ralph's heirs, should Philip die childless, as had been the case; so he entered on them by reason of the entail to Ralph de Mutton's heirs. The jury decided, 24 E. I. (1296 A.D.) that Philip intended enfeoffing Prior Nicholas in 1286 A.D., and had given him seisin for a month, during which Prior Nicholas ploughed and sowed, &c. But a female servant of Philip's had all the time kept cows on that land, and answered to Philip for the dairy produce, so Prior Nicholas fearing to lose his right, had planned with Philip an amicable suit to give Philip this life interest, but to secure to St. Thomas the reversion; but this the jury said had not been rightly done, so they gave verdict for Philip de Chetwynd.

² South of Stafford, between Baswich and Coppenhall.

³ Roger Vigil, the watchman, *al.* "le Waite," was Robert de Stafford's tenant at Ricardscote in 1166 A.D. (See "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 281.) This family held no less than six hides in Staffordshire in 1130 A.D., by Mr. Eyton's estimate. (Vol. II.)

(ut supra). Hiis testibus: Dñs Ricardo de Stafford, Jacobo de Pype, Nicholao de Beek, Rogero de Aston, militibus; Willō le Champion, Johanne de Swynnerton, Willielmo le Wasteneys, et aliis. Datum apud Stafford, die Martis proxima post festum Sc̃i Ambrosii, anno R. R. Edwardi tercii vicesimo sexto. (1353 A.D.) Philipps' MS. 7904.)

Omnibus, &c., Rogerus "atte Lowe" de Hughcesdon, Johannes Onnefrey, capallanus, et Philippus de Hughtesdon de Stafford, salutem in Domino. Noveritis nos concessisse, pro nobis et heredibus nostris in perpetuum, totum jus et clamum quod habuimus, vel aliquo modo habere &c., in omnibus terris et teñtis, nostris in Ricardescote, et in unā placeā prati que vocatur "Cokkesholm," et in unā placeā prati que vocatur le "Stockyng," juxta pratum de Silkemore,¹ cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, et juribus suis, que quondam habuimus de dono Roberti, filii Rogeri Selymon de Stafford. (Warranty and seals.) Hiis testibus: Maculino de Wasteneys,² milite, Willielmo fratre ejusdem, Johanne de Huford de Ricardescote, Ricardo le Palmere, Roberto de Bolde, Johanne de Hanyate, Hugone le White. Data apud Ricardescote, die Jovis proxima post festum Translationis Sc̃i Thome Martyris, an. R. R. Ed. tercii vicesimo tercio (1350 A.D.) (Philipps' MS. 7904.)

Inquis ad quod damnum, 24 E. (S.L.) Willielmus de Lylleshull dedit Priori et conventui Sancti Thome juxta Stafford quasdam terras in Ricardescote, Eburton (Orberton), et Coten.

Writ to enquire whether it will be to the King's damage or that of any one to permit this grant.

Patents 25 E. III. The King grants licence to William de Lillehull, baker, to give to St. Thomas 2 virgates and 12 acres of land in Ricardescote, Eburton, and Coten, worth yearly 3s. 4d., to hold as valued at 1 mark yearly, in part satisfaction of the royal grant to the Prioxy to acquire £10 of land, yearly rent, notwithstanding the Statute of Mortmain.

SALT.

Sciant tam p. quam f. quod ego Adam, filius Roberti le Smyth de Enston, d. c. et p. carta mea confirmavi Willō le Spencer de Hopton, et heredibus suis, duas acras terre jacentes in feodo de Salt, quarum una acra situata jacet inter terram Robti de Swynerton, militis, ex unā parte, et terram Johis de Parkhall ex aliā; et alia acra situata jacet juxta terram quondam Stephani By-the-water, et extendit usque ad culturam vocatam "Wedeya." Habend., &c., de capitali domino feodi per servicia, &c. (Usual warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Johanne del Heth, Ada de Brynton, Johanne de Aston, Roberto in le Lone, Ada le Masoun de Salt, et aliis. Data apud Salt, die Sabbati proximā post festum Inventionis Sc̃te Crucis. (1374 A.D.) 47 E. III. (Philipps' MS. 7298.)

[There are two other deeds of this series, but unimportant.]

Eudo de Salte,³ Deo, &c., et eorum hominibus in domo sua *deservientibus* (?), liberum transitum cum caretis et averiis suis per terram meam et feodum meum de Salte, sine dampno mihi et heredibus meis in feodo, in bladiis, in prato, in bosco, in haiis. Ita quod nec ego nec heredes mei, nec aliquis ex parte meā, eis dampnum vel gravamen, molestiam, vel aliquam vexationem, pro parte hujusmodi transitūs, inferemus, &c. (B.M.)

Robertus, filius Willielmi de Salte, Deo, &c., tres acras terre jacentes inter terram Willielmi filii Walteri et Johannis de Salte, et tendunt a capite

¹ "Silkmore" adjoins "Ricardescote" on the north.

² Maculino de Wasteneys, the son of Geoffrey, of the "Tixall" branch of that family, was an able man, much employed in public business affecting Staffordshire. (*Pide Account of Colton*, pp. 272-4.)

³ Circa 56 H. III. (?). Eudo stated that he was son of John de Mutton.

"Wedeya" (?) (Vydene) usque ad viam devenientem inter terram Hopton et Salte. (B.M.)

Robertus Somenor,¹ Johannes Walter (?), Henricus Goldsmith, et Thomas (Pope, capellanus, Nicholao Priori Sancti Thome, &c., omnia terras, tenementa, redditus, servicia, prata, pascua, (et) pastuaria cum omnibus pertinentiis que habuimus in Salt et Hopton, videlicet duo messuagia, unam carucatam terre, sex acras prati, et duos solidos redditus cum pertinentiis que quondam fuerunt Johanne, nuper uxoris de Aston (?) de Salt, et que nuper tenuimus ex dono et feoffmento predictæ Joanne. Testibus: Roberto, Francis et Thome de Thomenhorn, militibus, Thoma de Erdeswick² Hugonis de Stafford, Willielmo Middleton, Ricardo Smith de Salt. (5, H. IV.) (Walter Chetwynd's Note Book.)³ 1404 A.D.

ERDINGTON CHARTULARY.

[Quoted by Dugdale in his "Warwickshire," p. 651, folio 1656, as well as in his "Baronage," Vol. II., folio ed., p. 111.]

A special instrument under their convent seal conveys to Giles⁴ de Erdington from the Priory of St. Thomas near Stafford, "The admittance of a Canon into their monasterie, upon his presentation, and his heirs successively, to celebrate divine service there, at the altar of 'St. Thomas the Martyr,' for the health of his soul, as also for the souls of his father and mother and ancestors; and likewise that at the celebration of the Masse of our Lady, in the collect for the dead, the name of the said Giles should be always remembered; and after his decease his name registered in their martyrologe; and his anniversary duely kept, in as ample a manner as for their patron."⁵

SILKMORE.

Ricardus Roberts, filius Willielmi Roberts, Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, &c., pratum in Silkmore, inter Stephanum filium Gervasii et Galfridum mercatorem. (B.M.)

. Dokesay Willielmo, filio Roberts, pratum in Silkmore. (B.M.)

Hugo de Dokesay,⁶ Deo et ecclesie S. Thome, &c., terram in Silkmore quam Aluricus Eskebernerai tenuit. (B.M.)

¹ The Inquis. ad quod damnum calls him "Bertramus" Somenour, capellanus (5 H. IV.)

² Apparently some word is here omitted, or else the termination of the succeeding Hugonis ought to be read Hugone.

³ The ink of this deed is very faint, and the writing, being S. Erdeswick's, full of contractions, is by no means easy to decipher. Mr. Chetwynd had secured some of Erdeswick's papers relating chiefly to "Salt," and these have been bound up with his own notes.

⁴ Giles de Erdington was the son and heir of Thomas de Erdington by Roesa de Cokefeld his wife. He was a considerable benefactor to St. Thomas, as the foregoing grant proves. Thomas de Erdington died 2 H. III. (A.D. 1218), and Giles in 1 E. I. (1272 A.D.) If the deed is dated about 1260 A.D., it would probably be tolerably correct. (For further mention of all three, see "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., pp. 11, 12, &c.; Plea Rolls, and Final Concords.)

⁵ Hugh de Dokesay lived circa 1225 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., pp. 210, 231.)

STAFFORD.

"*Ex dono Roberti, domini Stafford, 10 acras in la Lee,¹ justa Bradley, et tres marcas annui redditus de molendinis suis de Stafford.*"—"Ex dono Philippi de Chetwynd, militis, diversa burgagia in Stafford."

Carta Prioris Sc̃i. Thome Philippo de Chetwynd, armigero. (1436. A.D.) Testatur quod cum dicti Prior, conventus, et successores sui, habuerint, a tempore cujus contraria memoria non existit, diversos redditus annuales diversorum terrarum et tenementorum in villâ de Stafford, scilicet quoddam tenementum in dicta villâ quod quondam fuit cujusdam hominis vocati Erdynton, postea alterius vocati Sheld, postea alterius vocati Bowode, postea alterius vocati Willielmi Froddesham, et postea Ricardi Chetwynd, dñi de Ingestre, jure Thomasine uxoris ejus, filie prefati Willm̃i Froddesham, &c. (Chetwynd's Chartulary.)

Thomas de (H)erdington,² &c., sicut recepi a canonicis Sc̃i Thome de Stafford 2 burgagia in Stafford de feodo Sancti Ebrulfi,³ que remanebunt canonicia, post mortem meam, &c. (B.M.)

Radulphus Pasken de Stafford, Ragenilde, filie Normanni, uxori mee, pro homagio et servicio suo, &c. (B.M.)

Matilda, filia Pasken de Stafford, Ragenilde, filie Normanni, terram quam Radulphus Pasken, frater meus, et quondam vir suus, tenuit. (B.M.)

Agnes, filia Pasken de Stafford, uxor Nicholai, filii W. de Henery, terram quam Radulphus frater meus, et quondam vir Ragenilde, tenuit, eidem Ragenilde, &c. (B.M.)

Reginilde, filia Normanni, relicta Radulphi Pasken, Deo (et ecclesie S. Thome), &c. (B.M.)

Willielmus, filius Normanni de Stafford, Deo, &c. (B.M.)

Ego Gila, vidua, que fuit uxor Normanni de Stafford, Deo, &c., particulam terre que est inter messuagium meum, et messuagium Radulphi, filii mei, &c. (B.M.)

Nicholas, filius Willielmi de Henery, et Agnes, uxor mea, Ragenilde, filie Normanni, &c. (B.M.)

Johannes, filius Simonis de London, capellanus, Deo, &c. (B.M.)

Confirmacio Hugonis Bagot de concessionem Johannis de London, filii Simonis de London, capellani, &c. (B.M.)

Matilda, relicta Willielmi Wymer, Deo, &c. (B.M.)

Nicholas, filius Radulphi Turgis de Stafford Deo, &c., donacionem quam Brianus capellanus donavit, &c. (B.M.)

Willielmus, pelliparius, gener Osberti presbyteri de Stafford, et Juliana uxor ejus, Nicholao Canonico de Stafford, &c. (B.M.)

Avicia, filia Costardi, assensu Nicholai heredis mei, et pro anime salute Ade filii mei dedi cum corpore ejusdem Ade, Deo, &c. (B.M.)

Willm̃s, filius Payn, assensu uxoris mee Godave, et heredis mei Walteri, Deo et eccle Sc̃i Thome, &c., 4s. de terra quam tenui de Willm̃o Ennishull, &c. (B.M.)

Willm̃s, Toune, Deo, &c., terram que fuit Bertrami, que est proxima Roberto de Kynegeston, &c. (B.M.)

¹ Vide Under "Bradeley."

² A.D. 1199; "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 209, &c. T. de Erdington died 1219 A.D. (vide *infra*).

³ The Manor of Marston in Stafford was given to the Abbey of St. Evroult.

⁴ Ralph son of Turgis is mentioned in the testing clause of the Foundation Charter, so this grant would date probably circa 1200 A.D.

Ricardus, filius Thome, Deo et d. S^{ti} Thome, &c. (B.M.)

Philippus¹ le Power, Canonicus de Stafford, Deo, &c., terram ex dono Emma^e quondam uxoris Joh^{is} Miz^e gate, &c. (B.M.)

Will^{us}, filius Terkil, Deo et ecclⁱae St. Thome terram Rogeri Scad,² &c. (B.M.)

7 R. II. The King allows the Prior and convent of St. Thomas to purchase 27 messuages, 2 shops, 3 gardens, 2 yardlands, and 16 acres with their appurtenances in Stafford, Ambrighton, Lee, Newton, Coton, Walton, Silkmere, Salt, and Haniate. (Robert de Swinfen being then escheator). [Walter Chetwynd.]

Philippus de Nugent, Deo et S. Thome, &c., pro salute animarum Domini mei Roberti de Stafford et heredum suorum, redditum prati Gilberti le mercer de Stafford, quod tenuit de me, &c. (B.M.)³

Dilectis amicis suis Ecclesie (?) et persone de Milwich et de Mutton, Philippus Nugent, salutem. Deo, &c., redd. prati quod G. Mercer de Stafford tenuit de me in feodo. Ideo precor vos ut faciatis seisinam, &c. (B.M.)

Hugo, filius Reginaldi, clerici, Hugoni filio meo messuagium in Stafford, quod fuit Edwyni de Burthor, et Godithe uxoris ejus, &c. (B.M.)

Edwinus, filius Willielmi de Burthor, et Goditha uxor ejus, filia Rogeri, Francis et Anglicia, presentibus et futura, salutem. Sciatis nos concessione heredum nostrorum dedisse c. et presenti cart^a nostr^a confirmasse Hugoni, filio Reginaldi, pro se et heredibus suis, dimidietatem messuagii in Stafford quod fuit antedicti Rogeri, patris Godithe, &c. (B.M.)

Walterus, filius Edwyne de Burthor, Deo, &c., messuagium in Stafford quod Hugo diaconus, filius Reginaldi, eis donavit, &c. (B.M.)

Walterus, filius Godwini, et Matilda uxor mea, Deo, &c., assensu Laurenti filii Tikell. (B.M.)

Sciant omnes p. et f. quod ego Nicholaus Wytegrave, dedi et con. et hac p. cart^a confirmavi Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, et canonicis regularibus ibidem Deo servientibus, pro salute anime mee, et meorum antecessorum, et successorum, totam terram meam cum edificiis et pertinentiis omnibus, illam videlicet quam emi de Willielmo Reñd et Julian^a uxore su^a, in Stafford juxta cimiterium Sancte Marie; tenendam et habendam libere, quiete, &c., in puram et p. elemosynam in perpetuum. Reddendo inde ad dictum Willielmum et Julianam, et heredes eorum, duos denarios ad festum Sancti Bertolini, pro omni servicio, sect^a, curie, &c. (B.M.)

Ursus de Sardona, Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., terram quam Ersulphus fulvo (sic) tenet trans pontem⁴ de Stafford. (B.M.)

Hugo, filius Petri de Bischopburri, Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome concessi burgagium in Stafford quod Stephanus de Wiverston tenet, &c. (B.M.)

Nicholas Prior S. Thome, Hugoni de Castello, terram in Stafford inter Alexandrum carpentarium, et Thomam Jonekyn, quam habet de Alicia Peris; pro hac. . . Ricardus le Merke tenet, ter perquisit. de Rogero filio Willielmi le knave, quam Willielmum perquesivit de Thoma Dike, que fuit quondam Ricardi Spilleborde et Johannis de Scindon. . . &c. (B.M.)

Nicholas, filius Willielmi de Drengeton, domino Ade, capellano de Stowe, sex denarios redditus in Stafford de terra "Scad," quam Gerardus, filius Brien, dedi domui Sancti Thome, &c. (B.M.)

Adam, sacerdos de Stowe, sex denarios de terra Rogeri Scad, Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c. (B.M.)

¹ Circa 1250 A.D.

² Some uncertainty about the exact reading of this name.

³ "Staffordshire Historical Collection," Vol. IV., p. 291. Other references have been already made to Roger Scad's land. (*Vide* Bp. R.'s charter.)

⁴ I am uncertain whether these two grants should be inserted here or not, as the abstract is very meagre.

⁵ *i.e.*, near East Gate (?).

Sibilla, filia Orme¹ de Estgate, vidua totam terram meam Deo et S. Thome, &c. (B.M.)

Michaelis, filius Stephani de Foregate, Willielmo Roberts, &c. (B.M.)

Willielmus, filius Roberti de Stafford, Deo et S. Thome, &c., scilicet de Johanne filio meo 12 denarios, et de Ricardo filio meo 12 denarios, et 4 solidos de Petro Calf, et 2 solidos de Nicholo Hore, et 3 denarios de Hugone Draycote, et 3 denarios de Gilberto Draycote. (B.M.)

Willielmus, filius Wimeri de Stafford, assensu Matilde uxoris mee, et heredum meorum, Deo et Sancti Thome ecclesie juxta Stafford, &c. (B.M.)

Willielmus, filius Aielwardi, Deo et S. Thome, &c. (B.M.)

Reynerus, filius Ricardi, assensu uxoris mee Edithe, Deo et Sancti Thome ecclesie, terram quam emi de Edrico, filio Swayne, &c. (B.M.)

Willielmus de Gresleya, Deo et Sancti Thome ecclesie juxta Stafford, burgagium in Stafford, &c. (B.M.)

Johannes, capellanus de Sc̃i Cedde, &c., Deo, &c., duos denarios per manum Gilberti, filii Melisantie, &c., &c., quam mater mea emit, et mihi dedit. (B.M.)

S. p. et f. quod ego Johannes Hache, Staffordie, d. c. et p. c. mea confirmavi Ricardo de Novoburgo Staffordie, unum messuagium in villā de Stafford, in vico versus portam orientalem per quam itur ad prioratum Sc̃i Thome Martyris, illud scilicet quod Margeria Hache quondam tenuit, videlicet inter messuagium Willielmi Gilbert, ex parte occidentali, et messuagium Margerie le Carterea, ex parte orientali. Habendum, &c., reddendo inde annuatim unum par albarum cerothecarum, precii unius denarii, ad festum Beatorum Petri et Pauli, pro omni seculari servicio et demanda, salvis duobus denariis et uno obolo annuatim Domino Regi pro tenemento solutis. Hiis testibus: Simone de Celario, et Clemente de Londoniis, tunc baillivis,² Rogero aurifabro, Willielmo Gilbert, Nicholao Page, Thoma Lycke, Willielmo le Wolfe, Roberto Philip, Johanne Leyn. (Philippe's MS. 7902.)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Johannes,³ filius Willielmi Wymer, dedi Simoni⁴ de Pickestoke, pro novem solidis annui redditus, in quibus Johannes Morice, et heredes sui mihi reddere tenentur de terrā illā cum pertinentiis jacente in Cornario juxta forum Stafford, scilicet ex opposito domum Ricardi Gilbert. Hiis testibus: Simone de celario, &c.

Universis X̃i fidelibus, &c., Dominus Samson de salutem. Noverit, &c., me dedisse Fratri Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome, &c., quatuor solidos annui redditus in liberam, &c., elemosinam percipiendos annuatim de tenemento quod Johannes de Pilcote de me tenet in eadem villā de Stafford. Hiis testibus: Roberto le Hore,¹ Hamundo clerico, Willielmo de Pencriz clerico, Ada² de Colton, Roberto de Drengeton,¹ Willielmo Coco Sancti Thome, et aliis. (Philippe's MS. 7902.)

Sciant p. et f. quod nos Nicholaus Prior, et Conventus Sancti Thome, concessimus, &c., Rogero Wolrich de Stafford unam placeam terre cum pertinentiis suis, jacentem juxta tenementum dicti Rogeri, ad totam vitam suam, libere, &c. Reddendo inde annuatim nobis unum obolum ad festum Sancti Michaelis, et unum obolum ad festum, &c. (Seal.) Datum apud Prioratum in festo Nativitatis B. Marie, anno R. Regis Edwardi tercii quinquagesimo. (Philippe's MS. 7902.) (1377 A.D.)

¹ Was this the Orme who witnessed the Foundation Charter?

² Circa 1275 A.D.

³ Circa (1279) 7 E. I.

⁴ Simon de Pickestoke, end of H. III., and E. I.

⁵ K. John.

⁶ 1203 A.D.

Omnibus X^{ti} fidelibus presens scriptum visuris, &c., Willielmus de Lee,¹ salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse, &c., pro animâ meâ, et animabus antecessorum et successorum meorum, in puram et p. elemosinam, Fratri Nicholao, Priori Sancti Thome, &c., quinque seliones jacentes in campo qui vocatur "(H)osemondeslee," inter semitam et croftum dictorum Prioris et conventûs, salva dicto Willielmo latitudine forere subtus quercus ad portas ipsius Willielmi extendentes, et duos seliones qui vocantur le "Hongende-hull," et unum selionem ad capud ducti, jacentem inter terram Magistri Petri Meverell et terram Willielmi de Bergeweney; et duos seliones jacentes inter terras dictorum Magistri Petri et Willielmi, et extendunt se super le "Hand-lones." Habend., &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Thoma Meverell, Willielmo de Acton, Thoma de Lee, Ricardo de Horninglowe, Haymundo, clerico, Rogero de Gropton, Ricardo Teneray, et aliis. (Philipps' MS. 7902.)

Notum sit cunctis fidelibus Sc^{te} Ecclesie quod ego Will^{us} Bagot de Blemenhull dedi et concessi et h. p. c. mea confirmavi Deo et ecclesie Sc^{ti} Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, et canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus, in liberam et perpetuam elemosinam, pro salute anime mee, et uxoris mee, et puerorum nostrorum, et pro animâ patris mei, unum burgagium in Stafford, scilicet illud quod Margareta filia Anmus? tenet, cum omni servicio, concessione, et demanda ad me, et ad heredes meos, pertin. (Circa 1100.) (B.M.)

Robert Lord Stafford gave to the Prior and Convent of St. Thomas three marks of annual rent out of his mills, which William Wymar held of him in Stafford. (Fol. VII., Notes on Records at Stafford Castle, taken by Mr. Matthew Worswick, and bound up in Walter Chetwynd's MS. Book, Vol. II., p. 159).

Robert de Stafford by his deed granted to Richard Prior of St. Thomas the Martyr free carriage for all manner of grain within the town of Stafford to the mill of the said Priory. Dated in H. VI. (?) (Ought it not to be H. III. ?)

Robert, Prior of St. Thomas the Martyr near Stafford, and the Convent release Ralph of Stafford 12d. of yearly rent issuing out of the Haugh.² (Fol. 287.) (Circa 1358 A.D.)

[William Salt Library—the original and transcript (1292 A.D.).]

Universis Xⁱ fidelibus presens scriptum visuris vel audituris, Frater Nicholaus, Prior Sc^{ti} Thome juxta Staffordiam, et ejusdem loci conventus, eternam in Domino salutem. Non solum naturalis rationis instinctus verum etiam nostre religionis institutio pariter et norma nos exitant, edocent, et inducunt, ut benefactores nostros pro bonis temporalibus in beneficiis spiritualibus remunerare debeamus. Cum ergo dilecta nobis quondam in X^{to} *Dominâ Roysia de Standon*,³ tam inter vivos quam in sua voluntate ultimâ, varia et multiplices nobis contulerit honores et beneficia quorum pretexto eidem et suis ad bona spiritualia non immerito tenemur, concedimus, et tenore presentium nos et successores nostros in perpetuum obligamus, ad inveniendum de cetero quendam capellanum de Canonicis nostris pro animâ ipsius Roysie, et animabus heredum suorum de Standon, et animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum, missam que vocatur "Requiem" singulis diebus in ecclesiâ nostrâ apud Sanctum Thomam celebrandum, et quod *Dominus Robertus de Standon*, filius suus, et heredes sui, possint presentare clericum idoneum nobis

¹ Appears to have deceased before 12 E. I., 1284 A.D. This deed should be under Drointon?

² Mr. Mazzinghi informs me that this place, now called the "Hough," is in "Forebridge." (See part two of this volume.) The same name occurs however in connection with land at the junction of the Sow and Penk rivers.

³ Roes de Staundon was dead previous to 1287 (?). ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 189, where her executors are mentioned.)

et successoribus nostris, quem nos, et successores nostri, sine more dispendio in fratrem et canonicum nostrum admittere teneamur; et idem sic admissus, quam cito fuerit in presbiterum ordinatus, pro ipsa Roysia, et ceteris predictis, singulis diebus celebret in formâ antedictâ. Ipso vero in aliis ordinibus constituto, vel alias quocunque modo ad dictam missam celebrandam inpedito, vel forte viam univærse carnis ingresso, teneamur nos et successores nostri ad presentacionem predictorum alium idoneum admittere in formâ eadem et loco ipsius qualitercunque inpediti vel admissi et in Presbiterum non ordinati alium idoneum ad dictam missam singulis diebus celebrandam interim subrogare. Subjicientes nos et successores nostros in perpetuum specialiter in hac parte jurisdictioni et choercioni Domini Coventrensis et Lichfeldensis episcopi, qui pro tempore fuerit, ita ut in qualibet visitacione suâ, vel extra cum per predictum Robertum de Standon vel heredes suos fuerit requisitus, tam de admissione dicti clerici quam dicte misse celebracione per se vel suos inquire valeat ad plenum modo quo melius sibi viderit expedire, et quatenus nos vel successores nostros in aliqua parte premissorum rebelles, cessantes, seu negligentes, invenerit, eatenus suo periculo nos et successores nostros prout decet canonice puniat. Et ad omnium et singulorum premissorum observanciam futuris temporibus per quamcumque caucionem magis sufficientem hiis quorum interest exponendam nos et successores nostros compellat. In cujus rei testimonium tam nos, pro nobis et successoribus nostris, quam dictus Dñs Robertus, pro se et heredibus suis, huic scripto alternatim ad modum cyrographi confecto sigilla nostra apposuvimus. Data apud Sanctum Thomam die Lune in Octabis Purificationis B. M. Virginis, 1292 A.D. (9th February, 1292-3.) Hiis testibus: Dño Reginaldo de Lego, Dño Willielmo de Mere, Dño Willielmo de Stafford, Dño Henrico de Karsewalle, Dño Ricardo de Draicote, Thomâ Meverell, Henrico de Colton, Willielmo de Colton, clerico, et aliis.

STOWE.

Omnibus Xti fidelibus ad quos, presens scriptum pervenerit, Ricardus Prior Scti Thome, &c., salutem. Noverit, &c., nos dedisse, &c., Edwardo Ferrars, et heredibus suis, in perpetuum, omnia terras et nostra tenementa cum pratis et pasturis infra parvum parcum inclusa, cum quodam cornerio unius crofti vocati "Gardenscroft," jacentis inter palatia dicti parci in villâ de Stowe, cum quadam parcellâ terre jacente juxta "Flodgates," cum pertinentiis suis in Chartley; in excambio duarum acrarum terre arabilis buttantes super le "Stowegrene," vocatas "Atternes-acres," cum unâ acrà prati jacente juxta "Hendeford," nuper in tenurâ Wilmi Botilde, simul cum uno messuagio, et una nocoto terre, modo in tenurâ Hugonis del Hulle, cum pertinentiis suis in Weston. Habenda, &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Johē Bagot, Johē Gresley, militibus, Hugone Erdeswicke, Robto Koupey (middle of word hardly decipherable), Johanne Myners, et aliis. Datum apud Chartley die Jovis prox. post festum Conceptionis B. M. Virginis. A. R. R. Henrici sexti duodecimo. (Philippe MSS. 7910.) (1434 A.D.)

[The seal is a splendid impression of the common seal of St. Thomas Priory, and fac-simile of that given in the autotype.]

Univ. pateat per presentes me Robertum de Burs (sic) dominum de Certeleye,¹ concessisse, et fidei stipulatione permisisse, Fratrem Ricardum Priorem Scti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, et omnes canonicos suos, seculares et laicos, omnes et singulos, pro morte Thome "le Polere," in ecclesiâ de la Stowe, juxta Certeleye, occisi, irritatos vel qualitercunque indictatos erga Katherinam uxorem dicti Thome, si forte necesse fuerit tueri, et in posteris indempnes conservare omnibus et singulis querelis et controversiis per ipsam

¹ Robert de Bures had only a life interest in Chartley. John de Ferrers sued him for waste there, 33 E. I. (1305 A.D.)

Katerinam quocunque modo erga omnes supradictos modo vel inde movendis. In cujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus: Domino Roberto de (deed so torn that only four letters remain at end) fido, Standen, Dño Johanne Giffard, Johē de Fferar, Gáltero de Elmedon, Rogero de Aston, Robto le Venour, Ada fratree jus. Data die Dominica in Octabis Scfi Michaelis, Anno Regni R. Ed. Vicesimo tercio. (1295. A.D.) (Philipps' MS. 7910.)

An Agreement between Alan, styled Brito (le Bret'), Treasurer of Lichfield, and Robert de Brerdeshall, and the Prior and Convent (on the subject of the deed following). (1278 A.D.)

Omnibus, &c., Robertus le Breydeshale, rector ecclie de Stowe, subtus Certeleye, salutem. Noverit universitas vestra me dedisse dilectis fratribus meis, Fratri Nicholao Priori Scfi Thome, &c., et successoribus suis, de consensu et voluntate Venerabilis patris Rogeri² d. g. Conventr. et Lichf. Episcopi, quatuor solidos annue pensionis de p'dicta ecclia del "Stowe," ad festum Scfi Michaelis, annuatim, quoad vixero nomine *personatus* percipiendos; ad cujus concessionis observanciam si in aliquo, quod absit, defecero, liceat dicto Dño Epo, et successoribus suis me compellare. In cujus rei testimonium p'sentibus litteris sigillum meum apposui, unâ cum sigillo officialitatis Stafford. Data apud "le Stowe," die Jovis in vigil. Apost. Phil. et Jacobi. A.G. 1271. (Philipps' MS. 7910.)

Additional MS. B.M. No. 878 (copied in S. L.). (1302 A.D.)

Omnibus sancte matris ecclesie filiis presens scriptum visuris vel auditoris. Rogerus p. divina Coventrie et Lychfeldie epus, salutem in omnium Salvatore. Cum secundum apostolum operari debeamus bonum ad omnes, et maxime ad eos qui per devota pietatis opera domesticos fidei se esse demonstrant, et relictis vagis mundi discursibus sub arce religionis observancia muro se muniunt honestatis, per variosque virtutum gradus scander esatagunt ad arcem beatitudinis, ex qua dependet omnis armatura fortium et bonorum omnium magnitudo. Ut dilecti filii, Prior et Conventus Sancti Thome martiris, juxta Staffordiam, ecclesiam Stowye nostre diocesis, in qua jus obtinent patronatûs, dispositioni et ordinationi nostre simpliciter et absolute duxerint supponendum, ut nobis secundum voluntatis nostre arbitrium liceret disponere de eadem, pro ut in instrumento ipsorum super hoc confecto in hæc verba: "Universis S. Matris ecclie filiis ad quos p. scriptum pervenerit Frater Nicholaus,¹ Prior Scfi Thome j. Staffordiam, et ejusdem loci conventus eternam in Domus salutem. Noveritis universi nos unanimi assensu et communi voluntate ecclesiam 'Stowye' in qua jus patronatus habemus dispositioni et ordinationi Ven. in Xfo patris et Dñi Rogeri d. g. Cov. et Lichf. Epl supposuisse simpliciter et etiam absolute, volentes, quantum in nobis est, ut de ipsâ ecclesia secundum sue disponat arbitrium voluntatis. Ratum habituri et gratum quicquid prefatus Doñs Epus circa predictam ecclesiam sub quacunque forma duxerit ordinandum. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum capituli nostri apponi fecimus huic scripto plenius perspicitur contineri. Nos cum Capitulis nostris Coventrie et Lychfeldie super hoc tractavimus diligenter, et eorum interveniente assensu per litteras suas patentes expresso, quarum is est tenor." Univ. Xti Fidelibus presentem paginam visuris vel auditoris, Willielmus Prior Coventrie et ejusdem loci conventus humilis, Radulphus de Symplingham, decanus, et capitulum Lychfeldie, salutem in omnium Salvatore. Ad noticiam vestram volumus pervenire nos, quantum in nobis est, ratam et gratam habituros ordinationem quam divine inspirationis gratia Ven. Pater noster Doñs Rogerus de Meulond,

¹ Alan le Bretoun was Treasurer from 1276 to 1306 A.D. (Le Neve.)

² Roger de Molend (or Longespee), Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield from 1257 to 1295 A.D.

³ The date of this deed of Prior Nicholas was 1278 A.D. (Vide Plea Roll, 83 E. I., "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VII., p. 134.)

D. G. Coventrie et Lychf. Epūs ad honorem Dei, et ecclesiarum nostrarum, Cov. et Lychf. de ecclesiā Stowye cum ipsius pertinentiis proinde duxerit faciendam. In cuius rei testimonium et evidenciam pleniorē sigilla nostra apponi fecimus huic scripto. Attendentes gratia summe devocionis affectum dictorum Prioris et conventus, qui elemosinarum largicionibus, hospitem receptioni, et aliis caritatis operibus, ad quorum sustentationem pro multitudine pauperum ac hospitem ibidem confluentium proprie non suppetunt facultates relegata procul avaricia vacent more cotidiano de virtute in virtutem gradientes ut in supradictis operibus hospitem et egenorum necessitatibus presubveniēdo eo liberalius possint intendere quo monasterii sui facultates susceperē incrementa. Invocata Episcopi sancti gratia de prefata ecclesiā Stowye presenti ordinatione disponentes ipsam ecclesiam predictis Priori et Conventui ac eorum successoribus suo que monasterio ad pauperum et hospitem ibidem declinancium sustentationem concedimus et appropriamus, cedente vel decedente Roberto de Braydeshale, ejusdem ecclesie nunc rectore, cum omni integritate et pertinentiis suis perpetuis possidendam temporibus et habendam; assignantes predictis Priori et Conventui quatuor solidos annuos quo adduxerit dictus Robertus rector eccle. antedictę de consensu ejusdem rectoris nomine personatus de bonis ipsius ecclesie ab eodem rectore in festo Scti Michaelis Archangeli percipiendos verum quia divinis preceptis et apostolicis monitis incitatur ut pro statu ecclesie nostre Lychfeldie cui licet inmeriti presidemus impigro vigilemus affectu et in hoc officii nostri debitum persolvimus et laudibilem prosequimur actionem si non solum ipsius ecclesie nostre necessitates satagimus levigare verum et ipsius incrementa prospicere ut valeamus precipue cum in officii caritatis illis precipue obnoxii teneamur a quibus beneficia precipua dinoscimur percepisse ordinamus et ordinando statuimus ut de fructibus dicte ecclie Stowye, cum ipsam proximo vacare contigerit, dicti Prior et Conventus, et eorum successores, solvant singulis annis in perpetuum ad augmentacionem communem canonicorum ecclesie Cathedralis Lychfeldie communitur dicte ecclesie qui pro tempore fuerint decem marcas bonorum et legalium sterlingorum in Octabis Scti Mich. Archangeli pontificali auctoritate statuantes ut prior et conventus eorumque successores dictam ecclesiam Stowye cum pertinentiis suis in quibuscumque consistant ex hac ordinatione nostra et concessione futuris et perpetuis temporibus pacifice ut supratractum (sic) est, et inconcusse possideant. Reservatā nobis et successoribus nostris potestate taxandi vicariam competentem in ecclesia antedicta, ad quam dicti Prior et Conventus, ac eorum successores, quotiescumque vacaverit, nobis et successoribus nostris personam idoneam presentabunt, qui onus procuracionum et alia onera ordinaria ad nos vel successores nostros seu locorum Archidiaconos qualitercumque spectancia in perpetuum sustinebit, salvis in omnibus jure et auctoritate pontificali nostra et successorum nostrarum ac ecclesiarum nostrarum Conventrie et Lychfeldie dignitate. In cuius rei testimonium fidem et evidenciam pleniorē sigillum nostrum apposimus huic scripto.

(Additional MSS. 879 and 880 are the confirmations by Wm. Prior of Coventry and his convent, and Ralph de Sempringham, Dean of Lichfield and the Chapter in identical form of this deed.)

STOWE.

Near Chartley (*vide* Chartley for Grant of Advowson). (A.D. 1278.)

Robert de Berdshall, then rector, paid 4s. yearly to ye Priory of St. Thomas out of ye profits of his church. (Walter Chetwynd.)

An Inquisition was made at Stafford concerning ye right of ye patronage of Stowe Church. It appeared that Robert de Breydshall held that Church in the time of William Com. de Ferrers, and in the time of William his son, and in the time of Robert Com. de Ferrers, son of the aforesaid William, and

father of John who now is, and as son and heir of the aforesaid Robert,¹ and Lord of Chartley manor, presents to Stowe Church (Walter Chetwynd). (1295.)

Roger Bp. of Cov. and Lichfield appropriates Stowe Church after ye decease or resignation of Robert de Breydshall, ye then incumbent, to ye Priory of St. Thomas, he paying then 4s. yearly while he continues to hold it; *vide* deed. (Walter Chetwynd's MS.)

Edwardus dom. Ferrars dedit Ricardo, Priori Sancti Thome, duas acras buttantes super "le Stowe Grene," simul cum uno messuagio in Weston. (12 H. VI.) (1434 A.D.)

TILLINGTON (ADJOINING STAFFORD ON THE NORTH AND NORTH-WEST.)

Adam² Greneville, Deo et Sancti Thome ecclesie, &c., burgagium quod Willielmus filius Martini tenuit de feudo de Tillington. (B.M.)

Willielmus³ de Greneville confirmo donacionem quam Adam pater meus dedit Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome. (B.M.)

TIXALL

"Ex dono Pagani de Wastneys terr. in Tixall et Hagengate."

Galfridus de Wastneys, dominus de Tixhall, confirmavi Deo, et Ricardo Priori S^ti Thome, illis 2 assartis⁴ (seu, illa 2 assarta?) quæ jacent extra portam dicte domus; scilicet, recte a rivulo qui ducit per mediam "Withden-slade" usque in aquam de Sowe ex uno capite, et sic per longum descendentem et durantem a dicto rivulo recte juxta regalem viam ducentem de Tixhall usque Stafford in Kinesbroc, et de Kinesbroc usque in aquam de Sowe predictam; tenenda, &c., prædicta assarta sicut carta quædam Riçi, scilicet Gerardi Brieni de Stafford, testatur. Testibus: Radulpho Wastineys, Philippo de Chetwynde, Johanne de Cressewale, Hugone de Hanegate, Hugone filio Radulphi de eadem, et aliis. 24 E. I. (1295 A.D.) (B.M.)

Paganus de Wastineis Deo, &c., communam totius pasturæ mee de Tikeshall, et de Hanegate, pertinentem dimidie carucate terra quam tenent in Hanegate, de dono Alani et Hugonis, quondam dominorum illius villæ, et ad unam acram quam tenent de me juxta⁵ vivarium super Kynesbroc, 20 ovibus et 30 averiis, et 4 apris, et 6 suibus, cum totâ sequelâ sua, unius anni p. has divisas; scilicet, de Haia de Hoptun sub limbo bosci usque ad, hesiam de⁶ Uncleshed (obliterated and doubtful), et inde per "Sicheton" in descendendo usque in villam de Tikeshall, et inde per Sicheton usque ad "Achurtespole" (?) et inde per aquam descendendo de vivario, usque ad aquam de Sowe versus

¹ 1279 A.D., Plea Roll, 7 E. I. Alianor, widow of Robert de Ferrars, sued the Prior of St. Thomas for one-third of the advowson of Stowe Church, two messuages, and 49 acres of land there. The Prior denied her right. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections" Vol. VI., p. 97.)

The same Rolls, 33 E. I. (1305 A.D.), refer to the grant made by Prior Nicholas in 1278 A.D. of an annual rent of 10 marcs to the Dean and Chapter of Lichfield, from "Stowe Church." Arrears for fourteen years past, which the Priory had refused to settle, were now proved, but 40 marcs were accepted in discharge of the entire debt. Should future arrears occur distraint is to be made on the goods of Stowe Church.

² Temp. R. I. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections" Vol. III., p. 29.)

³ H. III., 1233 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 82.) William de Grenville was succeeded by his son named Adam, after the grandfather.

⁴ These two clearings can be traced on the Ordnance Map, forming an oblong block, having the Sowe for its base on the south.

⁵ On the site of the present Kingston Pool (?), if not identical with it.

⁶ This is the reading in a copy of the deed given in 2044 Harl. MSS. I think it wrong; the first might be *male* (i.e., mill).

domum de Sancti Thome in totâ pasturâ usque ad Kynesbroc. Ita tamen quod licet mihi includere les "Brockholes" (or holmes) quando voluero. (B.M.)

Paganus de Wastineis Deo et Conventui S. Thome, &c., gystam aque de Kynesbroc quanta pertinet ad feodum meum, et terram meam ad stagnum firmandum et vivarium faciendum. (B.M.)

Paganus¹ de Wastineis de Tixhale, Deo, &c., quandam partem terre mee in territorio de Tixhale, scilicet in latitudine a viâ regiâ que ducit de Tixhale, usque Stafford, per viam que ducit usque Herberton² a(b) prioratu usque crucem Galfridi³ de Beke, que est super viam regiam que ducit de "Yngestre" usque Stafford, et ab eâdem cruce in longitudine per illam viam regalem ducentem usque ad vivarium dictorum canonicorum, et ita per vivarium in latitudine usque Stafford ad dictam viam scilicet que ducit de Tixhall usque Stafford, et ita in longitudine per eandem viam regiam usque in viam predictam ducentem a Prioratu usque Herberton; preterea occasione dicte terre habebunt in pasturâ meâ de Tixhale, &c. (B.M.) (*Circa 1240 A.D.*).

Ego Rogerus Wastineis, Deo et Priori Sancti Thome, &c., pro animâ Paganî patris mei, confirmo donacionem patris mei, &c. (B.M.)

HANYATE⁴ (IN TIXHALL).

"Ex dono Alani de Hagengate, et Hugonis filii ejus, diversas terras in Hagengate, et communam pasture in omnibus terris in Hagengate." (See more fully under "Kinesbroc" and "Tixhall.")

Hugo de Hanegate, Deo, et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., concessi pasturam super terram que est inter viam que vadit de domo Sancti Thome per crucem lapideam Willielmi Tarun versus "Chowsiche," et villam de Arberton, ad propria averia sua &c. (B.M.)

Robertus de Stafford omnibus hominibus suis Francis et Anglicis, et omnibus amicis suis, salutem. Confirmo Deo, et Sancti Thome &c., donacionem Alani de Hanegate et Roberti de Orberton, &c. (B.M.) (*Circa 1181 A.D.*)

Walterus,⁵ filius Hugonis de Hanyate, remisit Deo et ecclesie S. Thome, &c., jus meum in terrâ illa, in territorio de Tyxhall quam Dñs meus Paganus de Wastneys Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., dedit. (B.M.)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Hugo de Hahengate, pro salute anime mee, et meorum, tam antecessorum quam successorum, dedi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Scti Thome juxta Stafford, et canonicis, &c., totam terram meam que est juxta terram quam pater meus eisdem canonicis donavit, que vocatur "*Alesnebruche*," que scilicet terra est inter duas vias, quarum una ducit ad Orbertona a domo eorum, alia via dividit terram de Orbertona et terram meam de Hahengate in quibusdam locis, ad tenendam de me et heredibus meis in puram, &c., elemosinam; dedi etiam et quietos in perpetuum clamavi, duodecim denarios, ad

¹ Pagan de Wasteneys must therefore be that Payne de W. who stands in the Plea Rolls of 1227-1247 A.D. (Staffordshire Historical Collections," and "History of Cotton)."

² This is very important, because it decides the situation of Herberton.

³ Geoffrey de Bec, husband of Iselt de Ley, flourished *circa* 1230 A.D. (*temp.* H. III.).

⁴ The word here omitted should convey some "right of pasture," but is so written, and contracted, in Erdeswick's notes, as to defy the best readers of MSS. in the British Museum, whom Mr. Sims kindly consulted.

⁵ Upper and lower "Hanyard" adjoin Tixall and Ingestre Parks on the west side.

⁶ Walter son of Hugh de Hanyate is perhaps the Walter of a suit in 12 H. III., 1228 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 65.)

luminare coram altare Beate Marie, quos mihi et heredibus meis annuatim reddere debuerunt pro terra de "Guendelawe," præterea dedi corpus meum ad sepeliendum apud eandem ecclesiam cum de solo (?) migravero. (Usual warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Gervasio de Ticheshalle, et Johanne sacerdotibus, Roberto de Bec, Gaufrido fratre ejus, Philippo parsonâ de (H)ingestre Johanne de Saut, Willielmo Salopesir, Symone de Kerletona, Willielmo Grotewic, Willielmo de Hordefol, et multis aliis. (*Circa* 1220 A.D. ?) (Philippus' MS. 7919.)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Walterus,¹ filius Hugonis de Hanegate, remisi et quietum clamavi pro me et heredibus meis totum jus quod habui, vel habere potui, in terrâ illâ in territorio de Thikeshalle quam dominus meus Paganus² de Wastineis Deo et ecclesie Scti Thome Martyris juxta Stafford, et canonicis regularibus ibidem Deo servientibus, dedit. Intra has divisas, scilicet, a viâ que ducit a prioratu usque ad crucem Galfridi de Bec, et sic per viam juxta crucem ad vivarium predictorum canonicorum, et sic in latitudinem usque ad viam que ducit a Stafford usque Thikeshall. Ita quidem quod sibi possint predictam terram quibuscunque modis appuare. In cujus rei testimonium presenti scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus: Magistro W. Lupo, Jacobo de Blithfeld, Hugone de Colton, Robtō le Hore, Ricardo Toli, Ricardo filio Nicholai de Hopton, et multis aliis. (A very small deed, beautifully written.) (Philippus' MS. 8053. *Circa* 1240.)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Robertus dñs de Hanyate d., concessi, et p. cartâ meâ confirmavi, Ricardo de Hanyate, capellano, et Rōbto fratre suo, et assignatis eorum, unum messuagium cum curtilagio et grangiâ sicut edificata in territorio, et sex acras terre in campis de Hanyate, quod Willielmus de Witgreffe et Asselina uxor ejus, aliquando de me tenuerunt, habend., &c., cum omnibus libertatibus, &c., in bosco, plano, bruero, marlerio, pascuis, et pasturis, &c., cum omnibus animalibus suis, et cum fossurâ turbarum, singulis annis per medietatem unius diei. Reddendo annuatim duodecim denarios. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Magistro Galfrido³ rectore ecclesie de Tyxhale, Radulpho de Wasteneys, Willielmo le Bret, Willielmo de Hoc, et aliis. (S.D.) Seal oval, bearing a griffin passant.) (Philippus' MS. 7919. *Circa* 1271 (?).)

Pateat universis nos Ricardum en-le-Okes, et Johannam uxorem meam de Hanyate, concessisse et licentiam dedisse Nicholao priori domûs Scti Thome martyris juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventui, &c., quod acquietare sibi possint de Willielmo de Blakelowe et Ricardo de Hilderstone unum messuagium et terram adjacentem cum pertinentiis in villâ de Hanyate, quod habuerunt ex dono et feofmento Henrici de Warilowe et Alicie uxoris sue, et Margarete, sororis dicte Alicie. Habend., &c., in perpetuum, &c., Data apud Hanyate, die Dominicâ prox. post festum Scti Marci Evangeliste, anno R. R. Ricardi secundi sexto. Hiis testibus: Willielmo Chetwynde, milite, Willielmo Wasteneys, Willielmo le Eyr de Coton, Johanne del Parkhall, Johanne atte Pyrie de Hopton, et aliis. (1383 A.D.) (Philippus' MS. 7919.)

Pateat universis nos Johannem de Hanyate, et Rosam uxorem meam, concessisse et licentiam dedisse Nicholao Priori domûs Sancti Thome juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci Conventui, et successoribus suis, quod acquietare sibi possint

¹ Walter de Hanegate is concerned in a suit with Richard de Hopton in 12 H. III., 1228 A.D. Therefore Hugh (his father) must not be confounded with the Hugh of a previous deed; but judging from Ralph Wymer's grant in Bradley, which cannot perhaps be placed earlier than 1265, this would be *circa* 1240. (Robert le Hore attests both.)

² The Patent Rolls 42 H. III. (1258 A.D.) speak of an assize of novel disseisin brought by the Prior of St. Thomas against Payen de Wastineys for common of pasture in Tixhale.

³ Geoffrey Rector of Tixhall was Geoffrey le Wasteneys, fined for a forest trespass in 1286 A.D.

de Willielmo de Blakelowe, capellano, et Ricardo de Hilderstone; unum messuagium et terr. adjacent. in villâ de Hanyate, quod habuerunt ex dono et feofmento Henrici de Warilowe et Alicie uxoris ejus, et Margarete sororis dicte Alicie. Habend. et tenend. (Usual warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Dño Willielmo de Chetwynd, milite, Willielmo Wasteney, Willielmo le Eyr de Coton, Johanne de P(ar)khal, de Hoptun, Johanne atte Pyrie de eâdem, et aliis. Datum apud Hanyate Die Dominica proximâ post festum Sancti Marci Evangeliste, A. regni Regis Ricardi secundi secto. (1383 A.D.) (Phillips' MS. 7919.)

WESTON-SUBTUS-LIZIARD.

*"Ex dono Hugonis¹ de Weston totam terram quam habuit in liber maritag. cum Matilda uxore sua, filiâ Hamonis,² in Weston."—
Confirmat. per Willielmum filium suum."*

[An abstract of the deed is given in Chetwynd's Notes, but almost in the words preceding.]

Sc. p. et. f. quod ego Robertus de Bethertona dedi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Scti Thome pro salute anime mee et meorum, in liberam, &c., elemosinam, quinque acras terre in villâ de Weston,³ quarum quatuor jacent inter terram que fuit Hugonis Palmeri usque ad sychetum in moram Radulphi, et extendunt se in longum a Hardelegesyche usque ad terram dicti Roberti et totam terram que se extendit a morâ Radulphi usque "Wathlingstret" inter marlariam dicti Robti et terram R. de Gossich; et unam acram de duobus selionibus que se extendit a "Wachlingstret" usque ad dictas acras; tenendas, et habendas, &c., in perpetuum libere, &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Dño Johanne de Acton, Roberto de Wyston, Johanne le Bruntone, Willielmo le Fraunceys, Willielmo filio Hamonis, Henrico de Bosco, et aliis. (Phillips' MS. 7921.)

Robertus Bambherton, Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., totam partem meam de morâ Radulphi⁴ de Weston. (B.M.)

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Willielmus, filius Hugonis de Weston, palmeri, dedi et concessi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Sancti Thome, &c., in liberam, puram, et perpetuam elemosinam, totam terram meam cum pertinentiis, quam habui jure hereditario per Matildam matrem meam, filiam Hamonis, in villâ de Weston, tenendam et habendam, &c.. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Domino⁵ Roberto de Kaverswall, Waltero de Hagnechat (Hanyate), Johanne le Bret, Ricardo Toly, Radulfo de Cotys,⁶ Ricardo de Herbrechthon, Henrico de bosco de Weston, et multis aliis. (Phillips' MS. 7921. Circa 1150 (?).)

¹ Hugh de Weston held one fee in Weston 1240-42 A.D. (Apparently Hugh succeeded in right of his wife only.)

² Hamo de Weston, 1175, Plea Roll, deceased 1214 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., p. 214.)

³ Entered as Weston-on-Trent in the Phillips' library catalogue, but the mention of Watling Street makes that impossible, and it is evidently Weston-under-Lizard.

⁴ This seems to be Erdeswick's abstract of the preceding grant (?).

⁵ Robert de Kaverswall occurs 1222 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., and in 1249 A.D.)

⁶ John le Bret, circa 1240-50; vide Coton Deeds.

⁷ Ralph de Cotes sues for land in Cotes, 1255 A.D. and 1260. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV.)

WESTON-SUPER-TRENT.

"Ex dono Roberti, domini Ferrars de Chartley, duas acras et advocacionem ecclesie de Weston."—Ex dono Edwardi, domini Ferrars, unum messuagium in Weston."

Reginald,¹ rector of ye church of Lee, gives to the Priory of St. Thomas two messuages in Weston and the advowson of the church there, which he had of the feofment of Robert Ferrars Earl of Derby. (Walter Chetwynd; circa 1270.)

Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Robertus de Ferrars, miles, dominus de Charteleye, dedi, concessi, et hac pr. cartâ meâ confirmavi, Johanni Wade, Rectori ecclesie de Leghe, et Ricardo de Hilderstone, baillivo de Drayton, unam acram terre cum pertinentiis in villâ de Weston-super-Trent, jacentem juxta le "Pooltresores,"² unâ cum advocacione ecclesie de Weston predictæ, cum omnibus juribus, habendam et tenendam predictis Johanni et Ricardo, hereditibus et assignatis, de capitalibus dominis feodi illius, per servicia inde debita et de jure consueta in perpetuum. (Warranty and seal). Hiis testibus: Dominis Willielmo de Chetwynd et Thoma de Aston, militibus, Willielmo Wasteneys, Johanne de Aston de Salt, Johanne filio Thome de Weston, et aliis. Data apud Charteley, die Sabbati, in festo Nativitatis Sancti Johis Bapt., A. Regni R. Ricardi secundi, post Conquestum octavo. (1385, A.D. Philipps' MS. 7921.)

Tenore hoc manifestum quod nobilis vir Dñs Robertus de Ferrariis miles, dñs de Charteleye, intuitu caritatis dedit et contulit Deo et Beate Marie Virgini gloriose, et Beato Thome Martiri de Stafford, et canonicis regularibus ibidem Deo servantibus, jus patronatûs Ecclesie parochialis de Weston-super-Trentam, cum omnibus juribus et pertinentiis suis, in puram et perpetuam elemosinam in perpetuum, pro salubri statu Dñi Roberti, et Dñe Margarete uxoris sue, et heredum suorum, et pro animabus parentum et antecessorum suorum, et omnium fidelium ut se in orationibus Deo in perpetuum commendent sub conditione que sequitur, videlicet, quod dictus Dñs Robertus voluit et ordinavit quod dicti canonici claustrales in ecclesiâ Beati Thome Martyris die ac nocte percipiant et habeant annuatim quinquaginta et duos solidos de fructibus dicte Ecclesie de Weston in perpetuum, videlicet unâquaque die Mercurii per annum per se duodecim denarios, ad augmentacionem sue pietancie in refectorio, prout tempus aut necessitas exquirat, et non alibi nisi dictis canonicis claustralibus; et si numerus canonicorum augeatur tunc (almost obliterated) summa denariorum secundum numerum canonicorum augeatur, et non obstante quin dictis canonicis de coquinâ serviatur de grosso et de pictancia secundum cursum et consuetudinem domûs illo die prout tempus

¹ Reginald, Rector of Leigh, occurs as one of the three coparceners of Leigh Manor in a suit of 1 E. I. (1272 A.D.).

² Is this the site of the "old" Vicarage, adjoining the Church and the large pool of water (?). It seems likely. The termination "sores" (or "ores") is said to mean bank or shore, as in Windsor, anciently Windle-sora, or "Winding-shore." (Isaac Taylor, p. 331.)

³ "(i.e.) If the number of canons be increased, then the amount of denarii (cash) payable out of the rectory of Weston, shall be increased beyond the twelve pence every Thursday, and nothing to hinder but that (quin) it should be served to the canons out of the kitchen from the meat in gross (grosso) as there prepared; see Bishop Burghill's confirmation for the explanatory fact, that the canons might be served in 'Infirmery' as well as Refectory."

"The 'prout tempus, &c., exquirat' refers to the variations of diet. Whether in fast or feast the 'pietancia,' or allowance of food, was to be increased in quantity; the quality being dependent on ecclesiastical rule." (For this valuable explanation I am indebted to Bishop Hobhouse, who adheres to the common form pietancia, in preference to pictancia, which is given in the "Maigne D'arnis" Lexicon.) (The derivation would then be from 'pietas'.)

exquirat et omnia ista predicta in perpetuum fideliter observanda sine aliqua fraude. Frater Nicholaus de Huxton, Prior dicte domus, frater Nicholaus Lichfield, Subprior, frater Willielmus de Bedenhale, frater Hugo de Routon, frater Thomas Swyneshed, frater Walterus de Roleston, frater Ricardus de Leyghe, frater Nicolaus de Yoxhale, frater Johannes de Stafford, frater Johannes de Asshull, frater Philippus de Stanford, canonici dicte domus, concesserunt, et tactis sacrosanctis evangelis coram predicto Dño Roberto et aliis in domo capitulari iuraverunt et in Martilogio scribi fecerunt in memoriam sempiternam. Facta sunt hec apud Prioratum Sancti Thome predictam die Mercurii proxima post festum Translationis Sancti Thome Martyris, coram Domino Ricardo Colle, clerico, et publico notario, Anno Domini M.C.C.C.LXXXIX. In quorum testimonio sigillum commune dicte domus presentibus est appensum. (1389 A.D.) (Philipps' MS. 7921.) (The writing is very faint.)

Universis presentes literas inspecturis. Nos Ricardus, Prior Sancti Thome juxta Stafford, et ejusdem loci conventus ordinis Sancti Augustini, Lichf. Dioc. salutem in Domino sempiternam. Considerantes immensa beneficia per Venerabilem virum Ricardum Topcliff, Archidiaconum Stafford, in appropriatione Ecclesie de Weston nobis et prioratui nostro multipliciter preostensa, ne ipsa dicto Archidiacono aut ejus successoribus Archidiaconis, qui pro tempore erunt, in aliquo sit dampnosa, concessimus eidem Archidiacono pro indemnitatem Archidiaconatus annuam pensionem duodecim denariorum solvendam sibi et successoribus suis, aut eorum officialibus, apud Weston singulis annis ad festum Sancti Michaelis vel infra quindenam proximo sequentem, de fructibus ecclesie de Weston supradicte. (Concludes with provision for sequestration for the pension, if not duly paid.) Dated 10th August, 1391, A.D. (Philipps MS. 7921.)

Pateat universis me Robertum Dominum de Ferrariis, dn̄m de Charteleygh militem, ordinasse et constituisse Radulphum Smitheson de Ambrington, bailivum meum de Charteleggh, attornatum meum ad ponendum Priorem (et conventum) Sancti Thome m̄. juxta Stafford, in plenam seysinam de duabus. acris terre et advocacione ecclesie de Weston super Trentam cum omnibus uribus pertinentiis suis. In cujus rei testimon. presentibus sigillum meum apposui. Datum apud Charteleggh die Lune proxima post festum Sancti Ambrosii Anno R. Regis Ricci secundi post Conquest, xii. 1389. (Philipps' MS. 7921.)

On 4th April, 1409, Bishop John (Burghill) of Lichfield saw and confirmed this. (Philipps' MS. 7921.)

Richard,¹ Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, appropriates ye Church of Weston-on-Trent, not exceeding ye value of ten marcas yearly, to ye Priory of St. Thomas, given them by Robert Lord Ferrars of Chartley. The Bishop's deed is confirmed by the chapters of Coventry and of Lichfield, and by the Archdeacon of Stafford.

The grant of Robert Lord Ferrars of Chartley to Nicholas, Prior of St. Thomas, and the canons regular of that house of the advowson, of this church of Weston, together with 2 acres of land, is witnessed by John de Gresley, William de Chetwynd, Thomas de Aston, and John Bagot, Knights, John de Hinkeley, and others, and bears date 12 R. II. (1389 A.D.) (Walter Chetwynd.)

John Burghill,² Bishop of Lichfield, on 12th April, 1403 A.D., appoints perpetual Vicarage for Weston³ patronage to be with the Priory of St. Thomas.

¹ Richard, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, is Richard Scrope, consecrated 19th August, 1386; subsequently translated to York in 1398, and beheaded in 1405 A.D., for excommunicating H. IV., and combining with the Earls of Northumberland, Nottingham, and others, to place the Earl of March on the throne. This Bp. Richard was brother of William Scrope Earl of Wiltshire.

² John Burghill, Bishop of Landaff, was translated to Coventry and Lichfield in September, 1398 A.D. (ob. May, 1414.)

³ The first incumbent of this Church of Weston presented by St. Thomas appears

Johannes, permissione divinâ Episcopus Conventr. et Lichf., universis Sancte matris ecclesie filiis salutem, &c., cum nobilis vir Dominus Robertus de Ferrariis, miles, dominus de Chartley, dedisset, &c., Deo, et Beato Thome martyri juxta Stafford, &c., jus patronatûs ecclesie parochialis de Weston, &c., pro salubri statu dicti Roberti, et Domine Margarete uxoris ejus, &c., sub conditione que sequitur i.e., quod dicti canonici claustrales in ecclesiâ Beati Thome Martyris habeant annuatim 52 solidos de fructibus dicti ecclesie de Weston in perpetuum videlicet unâquaque die Mercurii per annum pro se duodecim denarios ad augmentacionem sue pictancie in Refectario, seu Infirmaria, prout tempus, aut necessitas exquirat, &c. Data 1389, A.D. Nicholao de Huxton, tunc Priore, et Ricardo de Lichfield sub-priore, &c. Nos igitur Johannes Episcopus antedictus predictam concessionem, &c., approbamus, ratificamus, &c., Anno Domini 1409, et anno nostre translationis, 11. (Walter Chetwynd.) (Philipps' MS. 7921.)

Cum contentio esset inter Religiosos viros Fratrem Ricardum, Priorem Sancti Thome, et conventum ejusdem loci, rectorem ecclesie de la "Stowe," ex unâ parte; et Dominum Walterum de Elmedon, rectorem ecclesie de Weston-supra-Trentam, ex aliâ parte, de confinibus dictarum parochiarum, videlicet de "Partricheshawe" usque le "Hore" mulne, tandem, amicis intervenientibus, dicta contentio in hunc modum conquievit; videlicet quod predicti Prior et conventus, pro se et successoribus suis, et predictus Walterus, cum assensu Domini Roberti de Bures, tunc patroni ecclesie de Weston, elegerint duodecim de fide dignis vibus (sic) (viris?) utriusque parochie, videlicet Robertum Hodynet, Andream le Ken, Rogerum-atte-Pirie, Adam Jambe, Ricardum le Parker, Adam Bondy, Willielmum Drury, Robertum Colet, Gilbertum le Moigne, Henricum de Eneston, Willielmum le Wasteneys, et Ricardum filium Willielmi clerici de Weston, qui jurati tactis sacrosanctis (evangeliiis) facerent certas metas et divisas inter predictas parochias. Qui dicunt super sacramentum suum quod predictæ Bunde incipiunt de loco qui vocatur "Patrichshawe," extendendo se ultra moram de "Ende-more" directe usque "Cobbe-holre;" et sic directe de "Cobbe-holre" usque viam subtus le "Brugehurne," et sic in rivulum descendendo de "Ambrycton," et sic per predictum rivulum usque le "Hore-mulne." Ad istas metas et bundas hinc inde fideliter in perpetuum observandas utraque pars juramentum presentat corporale. In cujus rei testimonium tam predictus Prior et conventus quam predictus Walterus, unâ cum Domino Roberto de Bures tunc patrono predictæ de Weston ecclesie, presentibus scriptis alternatim sigilla sua apposuerunt. Hiis testibus: Philippo de Chetwynde, Magistro Roberto de Bromleye, Rogero de Aston, Galfrido le Gastineys, Henrico Oweyn, et aliis. Datum apud Carteleye, die Dominico prox. ante festum Sancti Dunstani, Anno Domini m.c.c.c. secundo (1302 A.D.) (Philipps' MS. 7910.)

[Finis levata inter Johannem, filium Johannis de Chetwynd, et Nicholaum, priorem Sancti Thome, 32 H. III. (1248 A.D.) (Chetwynd Chartulary.)]

Hec est finalis concordia facta in curia Dñi Regis apud Lichfield in crastino Purificationis Beate Marie, A. R. R. Henrici, filii Regis Johannis, xxxii, coram Rogero de Thirkelby, &c., Justiciariis Itinerantibus, &c., inter Johannem filium Johannis de Chetwynd, petentem, et Fratrem Nicholaum, Priorem Sancti Thome juxta Stafford, tenentem, de duodecim acris terre cum

to have been Henry Pope, Chaplain, instituted 6th April, 1403 A.D. (*Vide* Bishops' Registers, Lichfield.)

¹ The name of this mill has now been changed into "Howe" mill.

² In 1302 A.D. Robert de Bures, as patron of Weston-on-Trent Church, presented Roger son of Roger de Aston, who was then instituted. (Bishops' Registers, Lichfield.)

pertinentiis in Weston,¹ &c., scilicet quod predictus Prior recognovit predictam terram cum pertinentiis esse jus ipsius Johannis, ei illam et reddidit in eadem curia. Habend. "et tenend." eidem Johanni et heredibus suis de dictis Priore, &c., in perpetuum. Reddendo inde per annum decem solidos ad festum Sancti Michaelis pro omni servicio et exactione, &c.

WHITGREAVE.

"Ex dono Avicie de Sogenhall, Clementis, fil. Herberti, et aliorum div. terras in Whitgrave."

Sciant tam p. quam f. quod ego Clemens filius Herberti de Witegreve dedi Deo et Sc̃i Thome ecclie tres acras terre in Witegreve, quarum due sunt ad "Hargravesiche," et una dimidia acra ad "Saldeforde" mere, et alia dimidia acra ad "Hacheholmley." Remisi etiam et quietum clamavi supradictis redditum 2 denariorum quos solebant mihi reddere annuatim pro octo acris terre in "Harehul," et omne jus quod habui vel habere potui in "Harehul." Habend., &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Dñō Radulpho de Mutton,² Dñō Roberto de Ley,³ Pagano de Tykeshull,⁴ Wmō Wymer,⁵ Roberto de Bure-Weston,⁶ Willo Norman de Stafford, Radulpho de Newport.⁷ (Circa 1225.) (Philipps' MS. 7897.)

Sciant, &c., quod ego Avicia de Sogenhull dedi, &c., Deo et ecclie S. Thome, &c., pro salute anime mee, &c., decem acras in territorio de Witegreve, quam emi de Clemente, filio Hereberti de Witegreve, scilicet, quatuor acras terre super le "Feld," quarum una est ad "Crosselowesich," de 4 selionibus, et una juxta "Ediffowehull," de quatuor selionibus, et una ad "Milhamesdich," de 3 selionibus propinquior Erlide (Yarlett), et una super "Becroft," de 2 selionibus. Item quatuor acras terre super "Denefeld," quarum due sunt super "Thoftum," et una super "Benefurlung," de 3 selionibus, propinquior terre dictorum Canonicorum, et dimidia acra super longum assartum, et dimidia acra que tendit super longum assartum. Item duas acras terre super campum qui dicitur "Elfurlong," quarum una se extendit ad "Crosse-lowesich" de duobus selionibus, et $\frac{1}{2}$ acra de 2 selionibus in crofto Hugonis Pipart, et $\frac{1}{2}$ acra juxta semitam que tendit ad bruerum. Tenend., &c. Reddendo annuatim duodecim denarios. Hiis testibus: Hugone Pipart,¹ Willielmo Pincerno, Ricardo de Waleshall, canonicis Stafford; Willielmo Wymer, Willielmo Norman, Radulpho de Newport, Johanne fratre ejus Hugone² de London, Rogero de Lacock, et aliis. (Previous to 1225 A.D.) (Philipps' MS. 7897.)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Clemens, filius Herberti de Witegreve, d., con., et p. cartā mea confirmavi Deo et ecclie S. Thome, &c., in liberam, &c., elemosinam decem acras terre in territorio de Witegreve, quas habuerunt de dono Avicie de Sogenhull, illas scilicet quas eadem Avicia emit de me. Tenend., &c. Reddendo, &c., ut supra. Hiis testibus: Hugone Pipart,³ Nicholao de Witegreve, Willielmo Pincerna, Ricardo de Waleshall, canonicis de Stafford; Willielmo Wymer, Radulpho de Newport, Willielmo Feld, Hugone de London, Rogero de Lacock, et aliis. (Circa 1225 A.D.)

¹ Vide "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 240 (Final Concords).

² Is this the *Weston* near *Stauadon*, referred to in subsequent Chetwynd suits (?) or *Weston* near *Ingestre* (?).

³ 1227 A.D.

⁴ 1212 A.D.

⁵ 1228 A.D.

⁶ 1220 A.D.

⁷ 1225 A.D. He had land in Cotes.

⁸ 1220 A.D. Hugh Pipart was Parson of Chebbesey. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 210.)

⁹ 1228 A.D. Hugh de London sues for a messuage in Stafford. (Philipps' MS. 7897.)

Sciant p. et f. quod ego Clemens filius Herberti de Witegreve dedi Deo et ecclesie S. Thome, &c., pro salute anime mee, totam terram meam de "Harehull," scilicet, 4 acras terre, et totam terram meam juxta "Longam Hays-toweham," scilicet, 4 acras terre in campo de Witegreve," in liberam, &c., elemosinam, reddendo inde annuatim mihi et heredibus meis 12 denarios in die Scti Bertelini pro omni servicio, &c., et pro hac dederunt mihi quadraginta solidos. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Dñō Albino¹ cancellario Hereford, Eudone de Mere,² Roberto de Wehelesbar, Waltero de Saut,³ Nichō de Witegreve, canonico de Stafford, Ada filio Ricardi, Galfrido le Botiler de Witegreve, Simone Lupo de Stafford, Robto de Haleford, et aliis. (*Circa* 1220.) (Philippe's MS. 7897.)

Sciant tam p. quam f. quod ego Henricus, filius Heliae Archidiaconi, concessi, &c., Deo et ecclesie St. Thome, et canonicis, &c., dimidiam waram terre quam Walterus Geri de prebendā mea tenuit, integre, pro duobus solidis ad festum Sancti Bertelini pro omni exactione, exceptis decimis et omnibus parochialibus obventionibus ad prebendam meam pertinentibus. Hiis testibus: Magistro Rogero, et Willielmo clerico de Stafford, Ricardo filio Thome, Willielmo filio Ailward, &c. (Philippe's MS. 7897.)

Sciant tam p. quam f., quod ego Ernald de Orbreton, filius Geri, pro salute anime mee et meorum, concessi, &c., ecclesie et canonicis Sancti Thome de Staford (sic) venditionem quam Walterus, frater meus, fecit eis de dimidiā virgatā terre in Witegreve, secundum scriptum quod inter eos habent de eadem; pro hac autem concessione predicti canonici dederunt mihi unum baconum, et unam po . . . blam⁴ (poneriam?) anone, et tunicam. Hiis testibus: Radulpho de Mutton, et Ivone fratre ejus, Thoma de Kersewelle, et Waltero fratre ejus, Ricardo de Hoptun, Ricardo de Orbertun, Bernardo de Orbertun, Rogero de Frodeswalle, Ricardo fratre ejus, et aliis. (*Circa* 1182 A.D.) (Philippe's MS. 7897.)

Sciant p. et f., quod ego Hernald, filius Geri, concessi, &c., ecclesie Sancti Thome de Stafford, et canonicis, &c., in liberam, &c., elemosinam, totam terram meam de Witegreve; scilicet, dimidiam virgatam terre, quam pater meus tenuit, cum omnibus libertatibus suis in bosco, plano, &c., libere, &c. Reddendo annuatim duos solidos in festo Sancti Bertilini, Henrico de Honneburi canonico ecclesie de Stafford, et successoribus suis, pro hac autem donacione dederunt tres marcas argenti. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Henrico de Buelea, Roberto del Bec, Willielmo filio Wymer, Thoma fratre ejus, Waltero de Salopsire, Willielmo filio Ailwardi, Ricardo filio Thome, Ricardo filio Musse, et aliis. (Philippe's MS. 7897.)

S. tam p. quam f., quod ego Galfridus filius Hernaldi de Herebrithona (Orberton), concessi Deo et ecclesie Scti Thome, &c., in liberam, &c., elemosinam donationem quam pater meus eis fecit de dimidiā virgatā terre in Witegreve, &c.; pro hac autem dederunt mihi duos solidos argenti. Hiis testibus: Willo, filio Wymer, Thoma fratre ejus, Willo, filio Ailward, Riçō, filio Tho., Willō de Sallopsire, &c. (Philippe's MS. 7897.)

¹ "Albinus" de Cave held the Chancellorship of Hereford Cathedral in 1215 and 1226 A.D. (Mr. Mazzinghi has kindly looked out the reference.) (Le Neve's "Fasti Eccl. Angl.," Vol. I., p. 491, where "Cartular. Radyng." MS., in the Augmentation Office, is cited. Vol. IX., fol. 6.)

² Ivo de Mere, 1197-1228 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vols. II., III., and IV.)

³ Walter de Salt's name will be found in the Assize Rolls, 1199-1203 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III.) We may identify him with the Walter who attests a grant of land in "Little Sandon" to Stone Priory, from A. de Beauchamp, widow of William Malbanc. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. VI., p. 19.)

⁴ Poneriam (a measure of corn) is the nearest explanation I can suggest, though unsatisfactory, because *blam* seems clearly the original termination.

Sciant. p. et f., quod ego Philippus le Poer, canonicus Beate Marie de Stafford, dedi, &c., Deo et ecclesie Scti Thome, pro salute anime mee, et meorum, in liberam, &c., elemosinam, tres acras terre cum pertinentiis in territorio de Witegreve, illas scilicet quas habui ex dono Edwini, filii Thome Balche de Wytegreve, viz., dimidiam acram ad Scarpenhull juxta terram Willi Sparuwe,¹ et dimidiam acram que vocatur "Havedlond" super Elmers-hull, et dimidiam acram terre de duobus selionibus super "le Feld," juxta terram Agnetis de Ghardino, et dimidiam acram terre, de 2 selionibus, super "Hodestowhul," inter terram dicti Edwini et terram que fuit Nicholai de Whitegreve, et dimidiam acram terre, unius selionis, ad "Horestun," juxta terram Sibille vidue. Tenend., &c. Reddendo inde annuatim predicto Edwino, hæredibus suis, unum par albarum cyrothecarum pretio unius oboli, vel obolum, die Scti Bertelini pro omni servicio. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Dño Willielmo Wymer, Adâ Wymer, Ricardo de Waleshal canonico de Stafford, Clemente de Wytegreve, Ada Sparawe,¹ et aliis. Anno millesimo ducentesimo quinquagesimo secundo (A.D. 1252), coram generali curiâ de Wytegreve. (Philipps' MS. 7897.)

Sciant p. et f., quod ego Willielmus, filius Ade de Wytegreave, concessi Deo et ecclesie Scti Thome, &c., in liberam, &c., elemosinam, unam acram de tribus selionibus cum pertinentiis, in territorio de Wytegreave, illam scilicet, &c., que vocatur "Pessehul," et jacet inter terram Radulphi² Bungy, et viam que ducit a Wytegreave usque "Bruggefeld." Tenend., &c. (Warranty and seal.) Hiis testibus: Clemente de Wytegreave, Radulpho Bungy, Willielmo de Holt, Simone de Hereford. (Circa 1210 (?).) (Philipps' MS. 7897.)

(Omitted.) Ernald son of Geri, to St. Thomas and canons, gives three acres in Witegreve, two situated in "Haregrevehehe," and one half acre at Fuldeforde, and one half acre at Hateholmes (?), and a rent of twelve pence they used to pay him for eight acres in Harehull. They giving him one penny yearly. (Sealed.) Hiis testibus: Dño Roberto de Wethelesbar, Willielmo de Gnoweshall, Ricardo de Waleshall, Ada Witegreve, Adâ filio Ricardi, Helia de eadem, &c. (Philipps' MS. 7897.)

Walter son of Geri sells to the Church and canons of St. Thomas the Martyr near Stafford, for 5½ marcs and 1 hog (*baconem*) and 1 poniblam ? (*poneriam*) of corn, all his lands in Witegreve, and all his rights to a half virgate there with liberties and common, to be held hereditarily, free of all service, saving that due to the chief lord. These witnesses: Ralph de Mutton,³ Ivo, his brother, Thomas de Kerswall, Walter his brother, Reinard le Clerk, Richard of Hoptun, Richard of Orbreton, Bernard of the same, Roger of Frodeswell, Walter and Richard his brothers, &c. (Philipps' MS. 7897.)

WOLASTON.⁴

Felicia⁵ de Dokesay, Laurentio filio meo et heredibus suis, &c., duas virgatas terre in Wolaston, quas Eudo de Wolaston dedit Ernaldo⁶ de

¹ This name is given as Spanawe in the Assize Roll of 4 R. John ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 53.)

² Ralph Bungy was sued in 1 John. (Assize Roll.) ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 42.)

³ Testing Clause 1194-5 A.D. ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. II., p. 266.)

⁴ Near Penkridge.

⁵ Felicia de Dokesay appears in the Final Concords (October, 1208 A.D.), when she established her right to two virgates in Bure; but lets the same to John the hunter, who is to acquit her, and her heirs, of the service of hunting for the Lord Stafford. She appears to have married Eudo de Mere.

⁶ An Arnald de Dokesey was tenant to Simon le Sage (1168 A.D.). (*Fide* Pipe Rolls, "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., p. 64); possibly the same man

Dokeseye cum Aldythâ filiâ suâ in libero maritagio, pro hac autem dedit mihi anulum aureum. (B.M.)

Laurentius, filius Endonis de Mere,¹ Deo et Sancti Thome ecclesie, duas virgatas terre in Wolaston, quas Eudo de Wolaston dedit Ernaldo de Dokeseye cum Aldithâ filiâ suâ in libero maritagio. Reddendo duos denarios pro omnibus servitiis, salvo forinseco servicio. (B.M.)

¹ Eudo de Mere and one John de Wollaston are parties in a suit of 1 John (1199 A.D.) ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. III., p. 60.)

N.B.—The letters B.M., following deeds in this chartulary, signify that they are taken from Harl. MS. 506 B.M.

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CASTLE CHURCH,

WITH SOME ACCOUNT

OF ITS

**PARISH AND MANOR AND OF ITS
ESCHEAT**

TEMPORE HENRY VIII.

ADDENDA VEL CORRIGENDA.

- Page 2, about the middle, *after* "Charters of many sovereigns," *insert* "tribal descent perhaps by the use of Borough English."
- Page 2, paragraph 2, line 4. Since this was written Mr. Calvert has published a short account of the Borough.
- Page 3, line 2, *for* "Staffordshire," *read* "Stafford Town."
- Page 9, at end of second paragraph, *after* [X] *add* [G].
- Page 10, about middle of page, *for* "distinct and," *read* "distant or."
- Page 10, line 8 from bottom, *add as note* to Fish Pools, as follows:—"The printed Wardrobe Roll of E. I. speaks not only of the King's, but of the Queen's Vivary at Stafford; not only of the King's Fisherman there, but of the Queen's."
- Page 11, line 2, *add as note*, "This word 'castle' is used in the sense of Castlewick in the Inq. p. m. upon the death of Earl Hugh, where it is said 'In which *Castle* the Earl had held two carucates of demesne land.' See Campbell's 'Stafford Peerage,' p. 64, line 8. 'Castle' indeed had been used for Castlewick previously, for a plea roll of 21 E. I. says that Nicholas Baron of Stafford held the 'Castle' of Stafford with the liberty of Bradeley *in capite* of the King ('Staffordshire Collections,' Vol. VI., pp. 258-9). It may be just hinted that the old intrenchment at Billington may have led to the whole district eastward of the Peak being styled Castre or Castelry."
- Page 11, at the end of third paragraph, *add as note*, "See 'Staffordshire Collections,' Vol. IV., p. 290 n."
- Page 11, line 7 from bottom, *omit* [L].
- Page 12, line 8, *for* "Tillington Pond," *read* "Tillington Ford."
- Page 14, line 6 from bottom, *for* the paragraph beginning "The Names," *insert* all the places in the map opposite except Stafford, Copenhall, Dunston, Acton Trussell and Penkridge, formed the Domesday Manor of Bradeley; and all the places in the map above Copenhall and below Stafford form now the Manor and Parish of the Castle.
- Page 20, at the end of the fourth paragraph, *for* "sixth year of Edward III.," *read* "first year." *Confer.* the Subsidy at large, "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. VII., Part I., p. 195.
- Page 23, 6 lines from bottom, *set* a "comma" after "Clerk."
- Page 24, paragraph 3, *for* "6 E. I. 111," *read* "1 E. III. 111."
- Page 27, line 13 from bottom, *for* "Branselle," *read* "Branselle."
- Page 30, line 12 and elsewhere, *for* "Teste de Nevil," *read* "Testa de Nevil"
- Page 31, at end of first paragraph, within the brackets *insert* [Y].

Page 31, line 12, *omit* brackets.

Page 35, paragraph 2. For the early branches of the Bagots and their connexion, *see* General Wrottesley's remarks in his Commentary upon the *Liber Niger*, "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. I., pp. 167, 169, 170.

Page 39, line 9, *for* "m. 33," *read* "No. 33."

Page 39, line 12, *for* "168," *read* "No. 168."

Page 39, line 8 from bottom, *for* "32," *read* "No. 32."

Page 40, line 5 from bottom, *for* "m. 5," *read* "No. V."

Page 48, paragraph 3, line 4. Walter Chetwynd (*see* his "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. III., p. 51) names Roger le Wete as the grantor of the Brocage to the Priory, *test.* Gerald fil Brien.

Page 52, line 11, *for* "Rowley," *read* "hamlet."

Page 72, line 5, *for* "the manor of the same name," *read* "Weston in Standon."

Page 79, line 17. Compare with Addenda to page 11, line 2.

Page 84, line 2, *insert* after full-stop, "The Chapel of St. Nicholas of Stafford, mentioned by Mr. Eyton ("Antiquities of Shropshire," Vol. V., p. 176), must I think be understood as this old chapel on the Hill, and if so it must have been at all events older than the year involved in the mention of it, that is 1186 or possibly 1173. But in the accounts of William Bromley and Thomas Gryme, Wardens of the Church of St. Mary's of Stafford in the twentieth year of King Henry VIII., appear items for different repairs to the aisle of St. Nicholas. That aisle supposes a chapel also there of corresponding dedication.

Page 84, *add* at foot. Land called the Dounes near Bradley and within its parish, was chargeable with tithes to the Free Chapel of St. Nicholas. In early times a Royal patent (20 E. I.) granted this same Free Chapel during the minority of the heir to Thomas son of Nicholas the deceased Baron. A part of the tithes, viz., those of corn and grain, of lands called the Downes, near the town of Bradeley, heretofore belonging to the Free Chapel of St. Nicholas within the Castle of Stafford, were leased by Henry Earl (? Lord) Stafford to Edward Ward of Levedale, *alias* Leadall, in the county of Stafford, Yeoman. *See* original deed, 13th December, 1694, in the parcel of Salt MSS. 73.

Page 97, *add* note to second paragraph, "Edmund Baron Stafford had been interred with the Minorites, *see* p. 100 *infra*. A century later, on the opposite side of the town, in the Choir of the Friars Augustines, under a tomb before the high altar, was buried the Earl of the same name, Edmund, slain at Shrewsbury A.D. 1403. According to Dugdale (Baronage, Vol. I., p. 164), not lands, but their plate and rich shrine had led to their destruction, and so their house became a ruin, and "therein all those fair and costly tombs of this most noble family (whereof some had been originally (?) placed therein), were miserably torn to pieces, and buried under the heap of its deplorable ruins."

Page 110, note 2. *See* the Act, section 15, which provides that the attainder shall not prejudice certain grants made by the Duke to Sir Andrew Windsor and to Anthony Windsor.

Page 113, note 3, *add* "The Duke, when Earl, had recommended Radcliffe for promotion to the valuable Rectory of Wynwick, calling him his own Clerk." *See* the Earl's letter to the Bishop printed at large in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, Vol. LXIII, p. 402.

Page 115, *add* at end of note, previous to note 1, "*see* Addenda to p. 84 at foot."

Page 126, line 14 from bottom. Edmund Earl of Stafford had before granted the pasture called the Hough to Nicholas Bradshaw for life. *See* the *I. p. m.* on the Earl's death, 4 Hen. IV., No. 41.

Page 132. This word Wingerun is perhaps a contraction from Wicingorun, and alludes to money current amongst the Danes, &c. *See* Duchesne *in verba*.

Page 144-6, as note to this proof of age *add* as follows: "Subsequently on an Inquest of the 16th E. III., No. 38, Edmund's son Ralph, afterwards first Earl Stafford, it was found that the latter was born in Avynton (? Aminton) near Tamworth, and was baptized in the Church of St. Edith of this Town of Tamworth."

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THE MANOR AND PARISH OF "CASTRE" (CASTLE).

IN times remote the county town, before history recorded the name which now designates it, was peopled by at first probably a sparse body of Anglo-Saxon settlers, coming thither, it has been suggested, from the Eastern coast. [K.] It assumed the form usual with village communities. This is an inference from institutions of which the more important and distinctive features long survived in their integrity, *i.e.*, in allotments, common fields, and common pasture, and which are at the present day far from obliterated.

In the course of a few centuries the primitive settlement took another form, the fence (*zaun*, or *tune*) which encircled it, good against cattle, was no defence against human foes; so now it was surrounded by solid palisades and perhaps by rude walls, giving to the space enclosed the character of a "burh." This was the work of Æthelfleda, Alfred's warlike daughter, or of his son Edward the Elder, but it was more probably the result of a concerted policy between them. The change was made owing to the stress of events and the, now menacing, proximity of their old formidable enemies the Danes, who had long previously obtained a solid footing in districts on the northern and eastern sides of the island, and had had that footing countenanced and confirmed by the Peace of Guthrum through the good feeling or deliberate policy of the illustrious Alfred.

It is evident that much is now solid drained land which was then water or unstable marsh, and consequently an additional obstacle to hostile onset or surprise. Indeed, the legend of the Saint Bertelin, if we may refer to it, speaks of an island, and the fact of one seems preserved in the name of the corner of the town, called by a word of Saxon origin not only denoting isle, but characterizing this one as of not small dimensions, *i.e.*, as broad isle (*Brodeye*). The terminal syllable of a supposed more ancient name, Bethnei (Latin form, *Bethania*), may preserve a record of a similar topographical fact. [L.]

The "burh" and district just mentioned lie entirely on the left or northern bank of the Sow, but the opposite stretch of land on the

south side of that river had formed an important manor of the Saxon Earls of Mercia, and was called Bradeley. It is now represented in part by the land which comprises the Parish of Bradeley. It included, however, in early times something more, viz., various members, and one especially our present subject, afterwards itself a distinct manor, termed the Manor of Castre, or the Manor of Stafford. Thus the area of a village community, the "burh" or borough, and the manor just mentioned (which last fell to a Norman Baron on the escheat of the last Saxon Earl), all lay together, so to say, within an area of 12,000 acres more or less, with a river nearly intersecting them. Now the borough had even with the Saxons been the King's borough, as the manor had been the Earl's manor. The result was a combination, not only interesting, but rare, as within narrow limits representing the three essential elements of the mixed form of government under which England has so long lived. Popular rights and liberties and progress represented by the institutions of common fields and common pastures and allotments, afterwards also by franchises, confirmed by the charters of many Sovereigns; the King's rights, evidenced by a Royal burgh, a Royal castle (afterwards King's Gaol), also by a King's chapel and a King's pool, while the Baronial rights came to be made prominent by a Baron's castle or by a demesne manor, "which, or one of them, was the caput of his Barony." [B.]

A subject so suggestive concerns in its entirety municipal as well as general history. The borough of Stafford awaits its Historian, but it is in vain to treat the history of the Manor of Stafford as entirely distinct. More especially is it impossible to have a clear notion of the early associations of the Baronial fief, without having in mind simultaneously the particulars of the royal rights existing in its vicinity.

The subject is not easy, and has been rendered less so by the confusion of names, of things, and persons, by the questionable pretensions of Barons it may be, and perhaps by the vacillating purposes of Kings, and especially by the inconsistent and hasty allegations of topographical writers. [A.] The difficulty may serve to excuse these introductory remarks, as well as my making the King's Castle of Stafford the first matter for consideration.

To prevent or lessen confusion, the whole subject has been divided under the following heads:—1. The King's Castle in Stafford; 2. The Manor of Stafford; 3. The Feudal Barons of the

first race; 4. The neighbouring contemporary Barons; 5. The Baronial Castle near Stafford Town and its free Chapel; 6. The Parish and its Church; 7. The Manorial Chapels and Hospitals; 8. The Stafford Escheat *tempore* Henry VIII.; 9. Sundry matters touching all the above. Lastly, an Appendix of documentary and historical evidence.

THE KING'S CASTLE AT STAFFORD.

Domesday Book mentions forty-nine Norman castles. Eight had the Conqueror for founder; one of these, at its nate, was in ruins at Stafford. Robert de Ferrers held one or two others, giving thus two, or at most three Norman castles to Staffordshire, *i.e.*, at Stafford, and perhaps at Tutbury and Burton. No others of the tenants *in capite* held such fortresses in the county, and Ferrers it may be added was in favour, and useful as one of the commissioners for the execution of the important task of the census. Robert de Stafford's great possessions in the county would no doubt have led him to think of exercising the then undoubted right to build a castle possessed by all Norman Barons the extent of whose possessions fulfilled the conditions. [D.]

It may be added that although there is no proof of his having absolutely at first exercised that right, his abstention is not inexplicable, so long as his sovereign's castle was maintained on the footing of war so near to his most eligible site, and this whether or not he himself was its governor for the King as thought by Dugdale. But if for any reason the King's Castle ceased to be regarded as of strategic importance, and its use as a fortress was in effect abandoned, the case would be altered, and it is hardly to be supposed that Robert or his early successors would content themselves with a simple manor house when so many of the class to which they belonged, and notably their cousins at Clifford Castle, Flamstead Castle, and perhaps Belvoir Castle had already fortified themselves in some of the castles that helped to swell the imposing total of 1,100 such structures throughout England mentioned as having sprung up during the reign of King Stephen. Many of these, and perhaps that on the hill near Stafford, according to Lord Lyttleton's suggestion, may really not have been more than stockaded and timbered forts. [D.]

Lingard tells us that in each populous burgh in England a

strong fortress had been erected; in case of insurrection it was an asylum to the Normans, its walls confined the principal natives of the district as hostages for the obedience of their countrymen. The learned writer enumerates as castles upon which the Conqueror relied those of Pevensey, Hastings, London, Dover, Winchester, Arundel, Exeter, Warwick, Nottingham, York, Lincoln, Huntingdon and Cambridge, Chester and Stafford. No doubt these were not all, but the above remained for the most part Royal castles, and became, with others along the sea coast, and on the Welsh and Scottish border, the backbone of the defence of England. How long they continued so, how in course of time some, unnecessary against national foes, fell to decay, and others at an early date were found unnecessary for other military purposes, and degenerated to mere prisons, appears partly in chronicles, partly in the Pipe Rolls and other records. The Pipe Rolls of the time of H. II. speak on more than one occasion of a castle at Bedford, but in the next reign only the gaol is named; and so Cambridge Castle and Chester Castle have been popularly spoken of as gaols or castles indifferently. At Reading, the Lysons tell us, that the old county gaol, which stood in Castle Street, seemed to have occupied the site of the castle which, it is probable, was first appropriated to the reception of prisoners about the year 1314. So by King's mandate the Sheriff was to have the King's Gaol of Stafford thoroughly repaired, the costs out of the issues of the county to be allowed to him at the Exchequer. See Liberate Roll, 56 H. III. (1271-2). But this place of imprisonment would seem to figure with the name of higher dignity in an Assize Roll of the same year, which tells us that Will le Fevre and Robert Suffin were taken for fishing furtively, and other misdemeanours, and imprisoned in the Castle of Stafford; and that it may not be supposed that this was the castle to the south of the Sow, it may be remarked that the mainprizers come none from that side of the river, but for the most part from Foregate and Tillington, etc., the nearest side to the presumed site of the King's Castle. [E.]

Royal castles and Baronial castles had some incidents so different, that it seems strange that even their sites should ever be confounded; such, however, has been the case with those in and at Stafford, yet they were more than a mile apart.

As to the Royal castle there, I think it stood, as castles in Royal towns usually did, at a corner of the town on the more elevated

ground, near the river and two important outlets, probably in some measure upon land on which Saxon defences had stood so early as the time of Edward the Elder. Near it long stood at its north-easterly extremity the great Pool, like the castle, the King's, but held by a tenant *in Capite*.

The three "burhs" which the Saxon Chronicle tells us were built (*getymbered*) by Ethelfleda, King Edward's sister, at Stafford, Tamworth and Brugge (Bridgenorth), were, it seems, all run up in a single short summer. The three gave place, after the advent of William I., to Norman castles; one was founded at Stafford by this King, another at Brugge by Robert de Belesme. They were not both, if either was, upon their old sites. This we know at least as to Bridgenorth Castle. After his insurrection Robert de Belesme intrusted the defence of that his castle to Roger son of Corbet, Robert de Neuville, and Ulger the Hunter, with a body of eighty stipendiary men-at-arms. On the death of William Rufus the attitude assumed by this insurgent noble, who had succeeded to the earldom (Palatinate it has been termed) of his brother Hugh (both were sons of Roger de Montgomery), enhanced the strategic importance of the Royal castles nearest to him on the east. That at Stafford, originally founded by the Conqueror, was mentioned in 1086 in Domesday Book as destroyed. It had, however, been rebuilt, as before said, at some intervening time between that date and Belesme's rebellion, for we are told that in 1002 the Castle of Stafford was on Henry I.'s behalf garrisoned by a knight of great experience, formerly a liegeman of Belesme's, by whom he had been recently shaken off. Belesme's bad and wretched mother had been murdered, and William Pantulf had been charged with complicity; he had, however, purged himself by the ordeal of fire. To this knight, Belesme's enemy, Henry had afterwards entrusted the command of Stafford Castle and its garrison of two hundred men.

It is impossible to affirm, but may be useful to suggest, that the anomalous position in which the first Robert de Stafford and his successors appear to stand as seemingly titular lords of a town not under their control, may have arisen out of some royal promise, broken for conduct, intentional or not, unsatisfactory to the then Sovereign, perhaps some alliance with one or more of the feudal parties which had favoured the claims of the eldest son of the Conqueror, or hesitation between the two royal claimants

to the Crown. We remark that the head of this house, Ralph de Conches, or de Tonei, joined the party of Robert Duke of Normandy, under the conduct of the Bishop of Bayeux. Or it may be (if Dugdale's inference is correct that the first Robert took his surname from having acted as the governor of the King's first Castle of Stafford); that its destruction recorded in Domesday had been attributed to his imprudence or incapacity. If he had been imprudent, or had suffered himself to be surprised, or had only proved unfortunate, the policy of so capable a monarch as Henry I. might reasonably still prefer to entrust a fortress, more important by position at that time than it perhaps ever was afterwards, to the tried and greater experience of William Pantulf, doubly interested in the royal castle, because he had a cause of his own, that of a mortal enmity to his former lord and probable assailant; added to which was a hope through Henry of recovering his estates, which Belesme had confiscated. Besides, Pantulf was more dependant upon the King's favour, and not in other respects so likely to excite distrust as a member of the house of Tonei, which allied to the Duke of Normandy by blood, had originally opposed the claim of William to the Ducal Crown, and the head of whose house had at Senlac, just before battle was joined, initiated his career as an aspirant to English fiefs by absolutely slighting the order of his Sovereign at the most critical moment. [F.] But in the same degree as a preference for William Pantulf was reasonable and politic, would be the mortification of the feudal chief to find himself bearer of an empty territorial surname without the *tertius denarius*, once perhaps promised, and without the custody of the Royal Castle, which Dugdale thought Robert had at first exercised. What was he to do? He might have called himself by the name of any of his manors, Bradeley or Madeley or Norton, etc., or of any other in his fief. He might on the other hand retain the territorial designation which the Royal Domesday Commissioners had themselves accorded, with all its suggestions of future realization or enhanced position. No wonder if he preferred the latter course. His exceptional advantages still prompted and justified the higher ambition, as did the critical times in which he lived. Whilst others were struggling for crowns, Stafford might yet grasp the earldom. The event justified the aspiration, although not for two centuries and a half, when Ralph Baron Stafford received the earldom by the hand of a grateful Sovereign, his brother in arms and associate in the

Order of Knights of the Garter, Edward III. To return, the insurrection appeased, its authors humbled and stripped of their English possessions, Belesme renewed his rebellion in Normandy, where the presence of powerful friends, and the possession, the historian tells us, of numerous castles, rendered him formidable. But in the meantime the Castle of Stafford had diminished in importance, and the Pipe Roll speaks of that of Newcastle-under-Lyne, judged by Mr. Eyton as having eclipsed its southern rival. The consolidation of the power of the Earls of Chester gave greater security on the side of Wales, whereas as to Stafford Castle, those ancient records remain silent for some years; not entirely however. Like many others, notably those of Cambridge, Nottingham, and Bedford in times a little later, the castle became, it would seem, of no other use than as a place of custody for the King's prisoners, and forms no item in the Sheriff's accounts except as a "gaol," although the more dignified appellation of Stafford Castle continued in other classes of records, in which it is spoken of sometimes as gaol, sometimes as castle, sometimes as gaol or castle, down to the reign of the second Tudor. Instances will be cited of this in the Appendix; suffice it for the present that by his Patent dated at Westminster on the 11th July, in the first year of his reign, King Edward IV. appointed Richard Byngham, Richard Charkke, and William Brayne his Justices to deliver the Castle of Stafford of the prisoners in it. [E.]

Notwithstanding its decline in importance, the Royal Castle in Stafford must have once occupied considerable space. It contrasts favourably with that one of Belesme's at Bridgenorth, upon which he had so much relied, in respect of the numbers contemporaneously assigned for the respective garrisons. The King gave his castle at Stafford a garrison of two hundred men, whereas Belesme had thought eighty sufficed for Bridgenorth, but these are said to have been stipendiary men-at-arms; probably in neither case was the number of fighting men thus limited, and in both the number was supplemented by a more numerous contingent. This is affirmed in the case of Belesme's Castle by the historian Orderic's narrative, which throws light upon the facts as to the King's Castle at Stafford. Henry is said to have besieged Bridgenorth for three months with a large army, *i.e.*, 30,000 men. It fell into his power through the aroused spirit of the provinces and the timely secession of the burgesses of

Bridgenorth from the cause of their rebel lord; so that when the garrison marched out they complained bitterly of having been outwitted by the other part of the garrison and by the municipality. [F.]

The Pipe Rolls of the twelfth century show entries which relate to the gaol of Stafford, and in which the respective Sheriffs claim in their accounts with the Crown certain allowances in respect of repairs in the gaol of Stafford. [I.] There would seem to be no doubt that at that early date the King's Castle there, had as in the case of many other castles, become for most purposes a place of detention for his prisoners; this gaol, however, had not quite lost its more important designation, for in the Pipe Roll of 2 John, "Collections for a History of Staffordshire," Vol. II., page 91, the Sheriff Geoffrey fitz Peter, or Thomas de Erdinton for him, claims *xxs.* in one sum not only for repairing the gaol but strengthening (*ferramento*) the Castle of Stafford, words which are explained, if necessary, by a corresponding but more expanded claim entered immediately preceding as to the Castle-super-Limam (New Castle), where *xxs.* are claimed for the vivary of the castle of the latter place, *xls.* for repairing the castle itself, and *xxs.* for repairing its gaol. Again, in the 6th of John ("Collections," Vol. II., page 119), after a large sum, *xxxviii*l.**, had been claimed for repairs of the new Castle under-Lime, the repairs of the two gaols of these castles are charged for together at the sum of *lxvs.*, and for iron bars to the prisons in the aforesaid castles. ("Collections," *ubi supra* have "*in prædicto castello*," the singular for the plural, which may be an error either of the original or transcript.)

When we consider that the King had a castle at Stafford at the beginning of the twelfth century, and know how disturbed a century it was, and know also that most of the royal castles degenerated into mere gaols, we are no longer surprised to find the latter designation sometimes superseding with respect to Stafford Castle the more important one; but yet not so universally, for gaol or castle appears to have been indifferently said of it *tempore* R. I. (See "Collections," Vol. II., page 91.) And, lest we should fancy two structures still meant here by the two appellations, we have fortunately conclusive evidence afforded us three hundred years later in the alternative expression of a patent of Henry VIII. which expressly styles the prison "Our Gaol or Castle of Stafford." (34 Pat., H. VIII.) [E.]

The franchises of *in-fangtheof* and *ut-fangtheof* had, however, been severally granted by Royal Charters to the King's borough of Stafford as well as to his free Chapel there, consequently each must, as well as the King's Gaol, have had its prison or place of detention. Not that the prisons within the Liberty of the Collegiate Church, or those of the borough could have had any gaol delivery according to our notion, at least not certainly subsequently to Ste. 27 E. I., st. 1, c. 3, which directed that the two Justices should deliver the county gaol "as well within Liberties as without."

The present County Gaol, which stands upon lands close to the town on its north-east, represents and replaces the King's Gaol; but its preceding site (to which it would seem to have been removed from a still older one) was near where stood the north gate of the town, and a credible opinion is that this gate was at the right extremity of a fortress, which trended thence towards the west in the direction of the windmill. This has for its site a place noted on an ancient map in the office of the Clerk of the Crown at Stafford. Its date seems to me of a time about the end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and upon its face where the mill now stands are written the words, "The old castle built by Edward I. the Elder, and in memorie fortified with reel walls." There is nothing to show when these "reel walls" were built. Erdswick in his "Survey," written about the date apparently of the map, only mentions "the walls and ruins of the walls of Stafford;" no word of any castle there on the left bank of the Sow, nor of any real or mimic castellated ruins. [X.] [G.]

But the Municipal books, to which my attention has been drawn, appear actually to prove the existence simultaneously of several prisons in the borough, and the gaol is said expressly by a Corporation order of the year 1621 to have been at the north gate of the town. Can we doubt that that north gate to which came the King's Pool was part of or near to the original gaol or castle of King Henry VIII. mentioned in his patent, and the legitimate descendant of the original Royal Castle? [G.]

Can any better or more usual or convenient site for a Royal Castle in Stafford be found than one which would place it upon the more elevated ground near a river and a gate, and close to one end of the King's Pool, and not far on the opposite side from the King's Chapel, which occupied, and still occupies, a site more in

the centre of the town? The precise site is, however, immaterial to my subject if, as may be positively said, the King's Castle was in Stafford town, and became the King's Gaol there.

When Mr. Eyton alluded to the subject of Stafford castles and churches being in "curious complication," he added, "not the less was he fain to believe would they be found eventually to harmonize and serve to illustrate one another."¹ He had rejected one theory and, apparently, had not accepted any other when his pen fell from his hand. Still, all who have duly weighed his phrases and his doubts are bound to admit that he has thrown light upon a subject by no means free from obscurity, and that any other now to succeed in this search must admit the principles which Mr. Eyton indicated, and march in the direction which he was the first to point out.

Whence then the difficulty? Partly it arises from the want, perhaps the inaccessibility, of documents and the absence of records previous to 31 Henry I., as well as from the silence of history. But the confusion of idea has mainly arisen from the confusion of terms and the employment of the same name for different things; indeed, the latter is a fruitful source of perplexity to topographers generally. Not only have distinct but adjoining counties very often similar names to indicate their towns, but the same county not seldom presents us with several identical designations of places very different. Mr. Eyton found in one county, Dorset, eighteen places called Winterbourne. Staffordshire has four Westons, three Astons, three Bradeleys, two Strettons, two Marstons, two Moretons, two Burtons, four Cotes or Cotons. And so we find that at or in the immediate vicinity of Stafford in earlier times and simultaneously there are mentioned two Churches of St. Mary, two hospitals of St. John the Baptist, two Chapels of St. Nicholas; also, perhaps, two great Vivaries or Fish-pools. There was a bourg and a faubourg of Stafford, both apparently called Burgi; a Manor of Stafford, with various members, some one or more of which was or were styled occasionally distinct manors; there were two post conquestual Castles, both called Stafford Castles, and two or three gaols of Stafford, and gaols confounded with castles. There was also a Stafford Rent independently of Stafford Manor, as can be seen by entries in the Great Cartulary, now at Blithfield. [A.]

¹ Eyton's "Staffordshire Domesday Studies," p. 135.

Besides all these sources of embarrassment, a common word, "castre," or castle, denoted both castle and castlewick, so that mention of a chapel in a "castre" has led to the erroneous notion, perhaps, that the chapel had always been in the castle itself. The word however has still a third sense, that of an ecclesiastical or parochial division, for the parish of Castle Church was first known as the Parish of Castle or "Castre."

There are then stumbling blocks in the way of the right application of passages in our ancient records and charters where any of the above expressions occur, stumbling blocks over which several esteemed writers have stumbled. [A.]

Diversity of subject with identity of Christian names has also been noticed as a disturbing source of misapprehension in the Staffordshire prænomena of Miliscent and Hervey.

Nor is the difficulty cleared up by any consistency in the early Charters of the Stafford Barons that I have seen; these countenance claims of rights repudiated by the march of events, and which must have emanated from careless impression, conscientious pretensions, or sheer ignorance. Details in the feverish period of the Norman successors of the Conqueror would, it is not unlikely, be construed to their own advantage by the feudal Seigneurs, and perhaps be denaturalized altogether by their descendants when their heiress had carried their pretensions by a marriage into an ancient family of perhaps different race.

The name Stafford must have preceded the division of England into shires, and may have been even coeval with the first Anglo-Saxon settlement on the Sow. [L.]

THE MANOR OF STAFFORD.

The *Manor of Stafford or Castre*.—Such is the alternative title used to designate this Manor in the oldest of our records which mentions it. [I.]

King Edward I.¹ in his Mandate to the Sheriff calls upon him for a return upon oath of inquisitors as to the Manor of *Stafford*, and the Sheriff in his answer deals with the domain under the alternative name of the Manor de *Castre*. [I.] Evidently it was known under two names, and that by which it was especially known on the spot was the name suggested by what had once been its

¹ Inq. p. m. 18 E. I., No. 50, A.D. 1289-90.

dominant or intended feature or distinction. *Once*; a necessary limitation for the inquisition alluded to, the earliest of the Stafford escheats, is silent as to any castle then existent! A castle had evidently been contemplated, and, if so, had it ever been built? If so, the castle had perished, but "castre," the castlewick, remained!

The River Sow, flowing from the north-west, takes an easterly direction on winding round Stafford. For more than four miles, that is, from Tillington above Stafford to the confluence at right angles of the Penk with it below, the Sow forms the northern boundary of a district which, with some fields, also below Stafford, on the opposite northern side of the river, is now called Castle Church Parish, and is noted as containing the *caput* of the Barony of Stafford. This manor long consisted of the different townships of Castre, or Castle, Forebridge, Silkmere, Rickerscote, and Burton. These last three with another, Billington, termed vill in the Staffordshire Domesday, form therein four of the members of, formerly a much greater manor of, Bradeley.

Bradeley with its members had belonged to the Saxon Earl Edwin, and after his untimely end was treated as rebel escheat, and was granted with numerous other manors in Staffordshire and other counties by the Conqueror to his own relative, Robert the first Baron, who, under the assumed name of Stafford, was a scion of a foremost family in Normandy, de Conches or Tonei, another member of which, perhaps a brother, had taken a conspicuous part in the Battle of Senlac, and had been similarly rewarded elsewhere in England.

Whilst the contiguous vill aforesaid of Silkmere, Rickerscote, Burton, and Billington are all mentioned by names which they still bear in the great Survey, this is not the case with Castre or Castle Hill, and yet it would be absurd to suppose the site unknown or ignored by the Domesday Commission. Indeed, the sequel will show that the Hill is mentioned in their Survey by a name so apposite as to render it singular that no one has before noticed its identity with Castle Hill.

The land which afterwards formed this manor was all, except perhaps the part called the Lammascotes, lying to the north of the Sow, an estate of the Saxon Earl Edwin. It belonged, perhaps even without that exception, to the first Norman Barons. [G.]

The Saxon Earl's estate about Stafford lay along the winding of the river Sow, to the south of the town, for a length of between

four and five miles, and was mainly composed of the great Manor with its eleven members, called Bradeley.

No doubt this manor comprised the greater part of the district afterwards designated Castle Church. It contained, for instance, the townships of Silkmere, Rickerscote, and Burton, which the Great Census expressly specifies amongst the members of Bradeley. But something, and indeed the greatest thing, Bradeley, did not apparently contain *eo nomine*, and that was the site of what was to become the Caput Baronie of the De Toneis, a site which from a proud elevation, commanding extensive views, looked down at the distance of a mile upon the walled and pallisaded town on the opposite side of the Sow.

Saxon Earl and Norman successor both held Bradeley with all its members. The Saxon Earl held also not only his Comital rights in Stafford itself, but the estates constituting the "Honor" of the county, whereas his Norman successor claimed, it would appear, but certainly did not acquire, those Comital rights, except that he was grantee, as of his own fee (*de suo feudo*) of fourteen of the manors of the "Honor" of the County. Besides this, he had of the King's own donation one-half of the royal revenue from the Burgh of Stafford.

But De Tonei's estate about Stafford was in this remarkable sense larger than that of the Saxon Earl here, that he had also obtained from the Conqueror almost all the land adjacent to Stafford on the north of the Sow, such as Tillington, Hopton, Salt, and Ingestre, escheats of various thanes lost apparently by their revolt. [I.]

All the places after the lapse of eight hundred years have, with one exception, preserved the names assigned to them in Domesday Book. No doubt could Earl Edwin hear them pronounced even as present inhabitants pronounce them he would know they were speaking of his own lands close to Stafford. The excepted estate there, however, is called in Domesday Book by a name so Norman that, although Dugdale (following the Census) calls Edwin its *præ* Domesday possessor, it is impossible to suppose that it was by that name that the Saxon Earl knew it. The Manor in question is Monetville, which cannot be supposed to be other than Montville, and to have been called so by the first Norman Lord to particularize a part of his estate, having a village in or near a hill, just as at the present day a considerable

farm not far from the Castle of Stafford on the hill is called the Hill Farm. An illustration which, to my mind, is strong to show that Monetville or Montville was in fact nothing else but the estate afterwards the caput Baronie of the Barons Stafford. My conviction is strengthened by the fact that no inquirer into the history of the eleventh century can point to a more likely place-name in the census, and that the author of the Staffordshire Domesday himself suggested that Monetville was probably near Rickerscote, to which it is the nearest possible hill unaccounted for by antiquaries. The estate was clearly not Billington, already named in Domesday Book, and no other mount in the manor exists near Stafford to justify the name of the vill near or at the Mount. [L.]

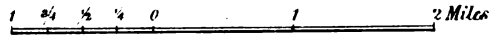
For what means the single French name amongst all the Saxon place-names? that only name that the last Saxon Earl would have failed by the pronunciation, even of the present day, to recognize as having been his? What means its position in Domesday Book at the very end of Robert de Stadford's property, if not the vill that was near a mount; Montville, whose appropriation and special use the Baron reserved to himself, being rudely spelt perhaps by the scribe, Monetville. It is also stated to have belonged to Earl Edwin, to have contained a hide, held of him, Robert de Stadford, by Walter and Ansger, who seem Normans, with two ploughlands in demesne, with eight boors and two acres of meadow, valued together at 10s.

Indeed such a hill, with already existing rude intrenchments probably, the work probably also of an earlier race, found in the midst of a principal manor of the first Norman Lord, and near a town which he coveted, might readily when he saw them suggest to him an appropriate site for a Norman castle.

The accompanying sketch indicates the position relatively to each other of the town of Stafford, the Rivers Sow and Penk (the latter was a boundary of the Royal forest of Cannock), and the Manor of Bradeley, as it was constituted both under the Saxon Earl and of the manor of the castle, as it became under his Norman successors. The names spelt with capitals indicate the estates named in Domesday; those with the larger capitals the vills, which, according to subsequent evidences, constituted the Manor of Castre or Stafford; those with the smaller capitals, the vills that the Domesday Bradeley comprised in addition.

The landmarks of old are fast becoming obliterated here as

Scale of Miles.



elsewhere, but still their features may be sometimes found imprinted in lasting lines on the ancient records of the county. Let us turn a more particular attention to the one of greatest authority.

Sixty-eight estates, one anonymous, are rubricated in Domesday Book as the share of Robert de Statford. Neither the order of the Hundreds nor of juxtaposition is strictly followed with them, an observation necessary to be made in the present consideration of such of those estates as lie on the south of Stafford and in its vicinity. The Great Manor of Bradeley seems placed in the impossible Hundred of Totmanslow, although as the more likely Hundred of Pirehill closely follows, that may be taken as the Hundred intended for Bradeley, and this may have been the proper Hundred at that early period, although certainly soon afterwards Bradeley was, as it now is, counted in Cuddleston Hundred. The fact of this different division of the Hundred, or the copyist's misapprehension upon the subject, led apparently to a dislocation of the Manor of Bradeley, which although in fact immaterial as far as Bradeley was concerned, for the constitution of manors often presents us with similar anomalies, seems to have forced the clerk to add of one of the members of Bradeley the formula used in such case, "*jacet ad Bradelië*," which seems the same as another Domesday expression, "*pertinet ad*," belongs to; or perhaps it may mean besides, and is adjacent to Bradeley.

The description in Domesday Book of estates belonging to Robert de Statford in Stafford and its vicinity on the south of the River Sow, is as follows.

After enumerating five estates of this tenant in capite elsewhere placed, the census proceeds: Robert de Statford holds Bradeley with its appendages. Earl Edwin held it. There is land for forty-four ploughs taking all the Berewichs. In Bradeley (proper) one hide only. *There* in demesne is one carucate, also two serfs and twelve villeins, and four boors (*bordarii*), with eleven ploughs. There is a mill of 5s., twelve acres of meadow, a wood a long mile long and half a long mile broad. In Bernertone is a hide; in Abetone are two hides, and in Lutiude one; in Belinton two hides; in Burton two hides and a half; in Selchemore one hide; in Longenalre one hide; in Mutone two hides; in Aluerdeston one hide; in Vllaveston two hides. These lands belong to Bradeley. In these are forty-eight villeins and twenty-six boors, holding seventeen carucates, and one is in demesne. In Aluerdeston also is a certain

"Miles," and fifteen acres of meadow. The whole manor with its member is worth vii. pounds. In the "Burg" of Statford Robert has 70s. of the King's half. [I.]

Coppenhall seems also a little out of its place. The Domesday entry sets it between Coven and Serveshed (Shareshull), and is as follows: *i.e.*, Robert (de Statford) holds one hide in Copenhale and Bueret from him. Three "*liberi homines*" held it. The arable land is for four ploughs; one of them is in demesne; and there are eight villeins and six boors with three ploughs. The value (of the estate) is xii. s.

I have referred to Coppenhall not that Domesday terms it a member of Bradeley; it does not, but because its history is involved with that of Hyde Lea which adjoins it, and Hyde Lea, if not originally part of "Castre," afterwards became part. [H.]

Then the census proceeds to enumerate the estates of Robert de Statford elsewhere, but first concludes with the following two which we should have expected to see described with or next to the above account of Bradeley and its appendices. One of these has been before adverted to as connected with Bradeley by the words "*jacet ad Bradelie*;" it is as follows: Robert holds in Ricardescote two hides and a half, and Robert holds from him. Earl Edwin held it, and it belongs and is adjacent to Bradeley. The arable land employs four ploughs, and one is in demesne, and (there are) three villeins and three boors with one carucate. There are two acres of meadow. It is (all) worth xx. s. The other estate, rubricated as the before mentioned Monetville, immediately follows Rickerscote (*supra*) in Domesday Book. The latter has been restored by the scribe as a member to the Manor of Bradeley. No commentator has attempted to identify the former, but without hesitation I have read it as Montville, and regard it as the nearer of the two sister hills looking towards the north upon the Sow at a distance, the farther, Billington, of about two miles, and this, the latter, of about one mile from Stafford on its west. The census writes:—

Robert (de Stafford) holds in Monetvile one hide, and Walter and Ansger (hold it), from him. Earl Edwin held (it formerly). The arable land is for two ploughs. In demesne there are *there* two acres of meadow, with eight boors; the estate is worth 10s.

It appears from the above census that all this land of Robert de Stadford about Stafford to the south of the Sow had been held by

Earl Edwin, except that at Coppenhall, which had been previously in the holding of three "*liberi homines*."

In addition to the tenements belonging from the date of Domesday to the Barons Stafford within the borough and its liberty, they had assigned to them, as appears from a map in the possession of the Town Clerk [G], the greater part of the strips of land lying between the River Sow and town ditch; but it would seem that the borough nevertheless had long gained a right to that part of it which lay between the gate on the south near the bridge and the Mill of Lord Stafford. And by recent arrangements I am told all such strips have been absolutely severed from the fee.

Bradeley at the Conquest then contained this hill, and another hill at Billington, both to the eye well adapted for Norman strongholds; both were estates of Robert; the more distant of the two, Billington, by common consent of learned writers, has ever been regarded as the very probable site of a British entrenchment; its capacity would shelter a larger body of men, but with this exception, the same reason that justifies us in supposing Billington to have been a British stronghold, would apply to the other nearer hill; both are on an elevation, both surrounded by fosses. Billington, Castlehill, and Stafford, lie in a line from west to east, Castlehill being almost equidistant from the two others, at intervals, say, of a mile. One feature, however, distinguishes from each other those ancient sites, the Norman mound is absent at Billington; whereas from a very ancient date such a mound existed on the nearer hill, and is alluded to as existing in the agreement between a certain Banastre, a master mason, and Ralph Earl of Stafford at the time when this architect agreed to construct for the Earl the castle, in the reign of Edward III., the original of which agreement is still preserved amongst the Stafford MSS. once in the possession of Mr. Stebbing Shaw the historian, and this I have been permitted to see in Lord Bagot's library at Blithfield. The masons found the mound ready for their work; when had that mound been erected? That is a crucial question, perhaps not susceptible, some may think, of a satisfactory answer, otherwise a doubt would be set at rest not hitherto solved, and which leaves the historian perhaps hardly more than a choice between probabilities. [U.]

At a time later than the Conquest, the nearer hill to Stafford is found to form part of a manor, then known on the spot as the Manor of Castre, and to have been called itself Castle Hill. There is however no direct evidence extant to show that any Norman castle

had occupied its site before the one built by the said Banastre for the first Earl, A.D. 1347. [U.] Indirect evidence there is, although deficient, *i.e.*, from the name itself, from the pre-existent mole or mount, and as will be seen from a pre-existent free chapel of the Staffords' dedicated to St. Nicholas, a Saint much in vogue for such dedications amongst the Norman nobles at the close of the eleventh century. In many evidences, one as early as King Henry II., especially in those of the Priories of Stone and Kenilworth, this free chapel is spoken of, as will be seen in the Appendix [N], as having been from the conquest "*infracastellum de Stafford*." Another church was also in the vicinity at the time of the Conquest, which seems once to have been somewhat confounded with the chapel by a Baron Stafford, as well as by a Prior of Kenilworth. Both structures, chapel and church, are described ambiguously in different documents as "*infra Castellum*" de Stafford; but a repeated litigation left as a result that the Staffords were rightful patrons, we may presume founders of the chapel, and that the Royal Free Chapel of St. Mary, Stafford, was patron of the church. Notwithstanding these facts, accepted by many as proof of the existence of a castle contemporaneously with the chapel and the Church, it is also a fact that the earlier inquisitions on the deaths of the several feudal lords make no mention at all of a castle, until the aforesaid erection of one with royal licence and by the authority of the first of the Earls of Stafford.

Of the Church of the Castre, or Castel, it is premature to speak; it had never, that we know, served the inhabitants of the Castle, or even, although they claimed it, belonged to its Lords until Henry VI. exchanged his Royal Collegiate Chapel of Stafford with Humphry Stafford, first Duke of the race, for his patronage of the Priory of Wotton-Waven in Warwickshire, and so the Castle Church, which belonged to the Church of Stafford, passed to the Duke of Buckingham. On the contrary, the spiritual necessities of the Castle had, in the first instance, from time out of mind been provided for by a free Chapel called St. Nicholas, and described as within or beneath the Castle or Park of Stafford, whose early and even rather late existence is attested by a long sequence of indisputable deeds and monuments; the Earl's Castle, which it came afterwards to serve, was of subsequent date; whereas the Church of Castre, the Castlewick, now styled Castle Church, had belonged to the Dean of the King's Collegiate Church of St. Mary's of Stafford from the time of the Conquest, and would

appear to have derived its castellan name simply from its propinquity to the Castle or to the proposed site for the Castle within the Castlewick. [N.]

The great antiquary whose services Staffordshire was so fortunate as to secure to elucidate her fundamental archæology, saw clearly enough when he first approached a subject so beset with difficulties, the true nature of the inquiry and the sources from which aid might be looked. He faltered in his conclusion more than once, and was only at last (time did not permit more) able confidently to affirm that the subject of Stafford Churches, Chapels, and Castles was found in singular complication, and to style the history of Stafford Castle and St. Mary's, "those two great problems."¹ And so they are, but they are also mixed up with something else, of which we know more, which is with the history of the greatness, ambition, aspirations, success, and downfall of one of the chief families of feudal times, Our object is to give a succinct account of these two classes of material, the Lords and Patrons, the Castles and Churches, knowing that they will reflect mutual light. But first, as to the difficulty in the way of decision. The voracity of time and the infirmity of human records are noticed everywhere. Ask Liverpool to affix a *ubi locorum* to her statue of St. Nicholas to which her out-going mariners addressed their prayers, or to their Castle, founded by Roger Pictavenis. Where are they? And what the *locale* of the hundreds of strongholds swept away after the Treaty of Devises?

According to Sir Henry Ellis, Domesday Book, Vol. I. p. 230, no fixity of purpose seems to have guided the landholders in Domesday Book in dealing with their manors, nor even, in some cases, with their chapels or churches. They divided their manors, they made two into one, and consolidated them, they added fresh members to them, they transferred lands from one manor to another without reference to distance between them or to difference of county. Even their *liberi homines* or *soemanni* could be removed from one manor to another, as could their Hall or Manor House.

In fact the Barons practically regarded themselves, says Sir Henry Ellis, as entitled to deal with their shares of the Conquest as the King did with his kingdom. And it required the powerful will and purpose of an Edward to put an end

¹ "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. II., p. 213.

to the confusion which ensued, for the consequences had been a serious interference with vital and essential principles of order.

But the consequences of such acts had not been foreseen at that early date, and no law fettered the will of the Norman at least, who might deal with his newly acquired property as he pleased. And this, it would seem, some motive had induced Robert de Stafford to do, for a member seems withdrawn from and enlarged by additions from the many membered manor of the Saxon Earl, and distinguished by that new Norman name, Monetville or Montville, and to confirm the inference the tenants seem Normans, Walter and Ansger.

Why was this done? If any opinion can be formed it was because the feudal Lord intended it to be, what it afterwards became, the *caput Baronie*. His eye had travelled thither from Stafford whilst the Conquest was yet incomplete, and his own future undefined, but Montville, the Mount town, answered the purpose of his ambition, was in the centre of his estates, and near enough to the county town to support his claim to its entire custody and possession should only circumstances be favourable.

The Manor of Stafford or of Castre or Castle, had then been part of the older Manor of Bradeley. It was composed of several parts. Long before the reign of Henry VIII. it is found to have stretched from the foot of Billington Hill and along the Sow to the point of junction of that river with the Penk, a distance of not less than four miles. The Sow and Penk affected its lower lying part, and so continually overflowed their banks as to reduce it to the condition of a marsh (*mariscum*), and obtain for the whole Manor sometimes the designation of Castre with the Marsh, "*Castre cum Marisco*," as it is called in a Subsidy Roll of the sixth year of Edward III. [O.]

In addition, the manor had a considerable piece of ground to the north-east of the Sow, which lies between the road to Uttoxeter and that river. How this came to the Barons does not appear, but it seems to have been at an early date, as the town of Stafford once had certain rights of common there.

Had the Manor had its extreme points connected by even lying instead of irregularly and indented boundary lines, it would have contained a much greater acreage; and its actual acreage too was seriously diminished by the liberality with which at a remote date

a King or Kings had enriched the Royal Chapels of Stafford and Penkridge; in the former case by the Church itself, called St. Mary's in the Castle, as well as by land lying about the Dean's Hill in Castle Church Parish, and in the latter by Coppenhall having come to form a prebend in the Royal Chapel of Penkridge.

Had this been all, the Manor would not have marked so greatly in the annals of Barons, County, and Borough, but let alone its members of Forebridge, Rickerscote, Silkmere, and Burton, the Manor became especially an object of interest as the site of one of the numerous castles of the Staffords, and more especially as the one essentially, although somewhat mysteriously associated with the origin of their oldest Barony, and with the name first borne by them in England in the eleventh century.

FREE CHAPEL OF ST. NICHOLAS DE CASTRO, STAFFORD.

The dedication of this Chapel recalls the memory of an incident that may indicate its origin, and that created a powerful impression upon Western Christendom towards the end of the eleventh century. The story is told with curious and life-like details by Vitalis [Lib. VII., c. 12]. The part taken in it by a very remarkable Norman knight, William Pantulf, afterwards Governor of the King's Castle at Stafford, with the dedication of the Chapel near the *caput* of the Stafford Barony to a saint of the same name as that borne by the then Baron, Nicholas son of Robert, these circumstances seem to furnish a probable date for the foundation and dedication of the original Chapel here to St. Nicholas of Bari. The Saint was called so after the translation of his remains from Myra in Asia Minor to Bari in Italy, by order of Urso, Archbishop of the latter place. This took place about the year 1088, when Myra with its Church St. Nicholas, a mile away, and now used only as a cemetery, where the Saint's body had reposed since the fourth century, had fallen into the hands of the Turks; but the Church seems to have been left undisturbed to the Christians. Three vessels were despatched from Bari, and the crews succeeded by great audacity and persistence in obtaining amidst great perils, like the Argonauts of old, the object of their enterprising voyage. [F.]

About this time William Pantulf, says the Chronicler, "a

gallant soldier, endowed with great talents and well known among the nobles of England and Italy, betook himself to Apulia, and was allowed to possess himself of part of the famous relics. These on his return to Normandy he deposited with great reverence in his own Church of Noron, where they were, on the Knight's invitation, subsequently received by Ralph, Abbot of Séez, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury. The recent purchase on behalf of the nation of the great picture by Raphael of the Madonna degli Ansedei, revives the memory of the legend, for the great artist has placed St. Nicholas of Bari on the left hand of the Madonna.

That this chapel was existent in the time of the third Baron in Castre is evident, for Dugdale in his "Baronage," Vol. I., p. 156, cites an *Inspeximus* by E. II. of a charter, whereby Robert de Stafford conveyed to the Canons of Kenilworth this Chapel of St. Nicholas within the Castle de Stafford. The *Inspeximus* is in the "*Monasticon*;" it specifies also the Churches of Madeley and Tiesho, and its mill there, which serve to identify the grant with that notified by the same Baron Robert to the Bishops of Coventry and Worcester cited in the "*Staffordshire Historical Collections*," Vol. II., p. 210, as given by him to the Church and Canons of Staines.

In this notification Robert de Stafford describes what he gave at Stafford as "*capellam meam de Stafford*." If then the subject matter of the two grants was the same, the one grant would explain the other as having been of no chapel in the town of Stafford, but of that within the Baron's "Castre." If Dugdale saw both grants (which show that a change of the donor's intention with respect to the two religious bodies had taken effect), that learned writer would seem to have had no scruple in treating the Chapel of Stafford and the Chapel of St. Nicholas within the Castle as one and identical. Indeed, the final composition between the two Convents of Stone and Kenilworth, arrived at A.D. 1260 by a decree of Roger Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, of which Dugdale inserted an abbreviated account in his "*Warwickshire*," would seem to leave little doubt upon the subject, and if it did it is set at rest by a reference to the Patent Roll of 10 Edward III., Part II., m. 33, wherein it is said that the Convent of Kenilworth made express remission or abandonment of lands and patronage to the Abbey of Stanes, and amongst many other things of this very Chapel of St. Nicholas described therein, as if to rectify misconception, "*Ecclesiam St. Nicholai de Castello de Stafford*."

The Lansdowne MSS., Part III., p. 24, refers to Inquisitions, from which it appears that the chapel with others was found to be amongst the derelict and concealed lands after the dissolution of the religious bodies.

So we learn from the 38th "Dep. Keep. Rep.," page 632, that depositions were taken in 1614 in a proceeding by the Attorney-General against Dickenson, wherein amongst other matters it was stated that Francis Dorrington was farmer of the tithe of the late free chapel, or *chantry*, of St. Nicholas within Stafford Castle. Some years previously there had been an Inquisition upon a recognizance for the Earl of Northampton against the lands of Edward, late Lord Stafford. The defendant was the grandson of Richard and son of Simon Dickenson.

With respect to this deposition, I may say that I have seen in a chest containing Stafford Muniments, of which the late Lord Stafford was afterwards owner, a paper, numbered 315, with the title, "As to right of tithes of the dissolved Chapel of St. Nicholas within the Castle of Stafford, claimed by Henry Lord Stafford" (meaning clearly Henry the son of the last Duke).

A previous mention of this chapel in the Escheat of Edward Stafford Duke of Buckingham will hereafter be spoken to, and an entry referred to, which seems to justify the suggestion that the chapel erected by the architect of the Castle *tempore* Edward III. was not quite upon the same site as an older Free Chapel of St. Nicholas.

The "old chapel here adjoining to the Castle" (see *infra*, "The Escheat *tempore* H. VIII.") would seem to have been a bone of contention, and probably therefore neglected for many years; and it was not until by the decree of the Bishop and the Patent of Edward III. upholding it, that the Chapel reverted to the Stafford foundation at Stanes that the Earl named the new structure as one to be erected concurrently with his Castle, A.D. 1347.

There is, however, certain evidence of a former chapel's existence in the 21st of the first Edward, for a Patent of that date records a Royal grant to Thomas (son of Nicholas, late Baron of Stafford) Clerk of the free Chapel of St. Nicholas in the Castle of Stafford, then vacant and in the King's grant, by virtue of his custody of the land and heir of the aforesaid Nicholas, deceased, a tenant *in capite*; Ralph, first Earl Stafford, who built the Castle mentioned in the Survey, was grandson of Nicholas.

The following finding of a jury illustrates the condition of the

Barons' tenants at two of their most important manors in Staffordshire.

An inquisition was directed (42 H. III) to ascertain amongst other things what land Ralph Basset of Weledon held of the King at the time of his death. It was found that he held one small fee of "Mortayne" of the Baron of Stafford, wherefore he owes *suit at his Court of Stafford every three weeks, and scutage when it happens*; and the jurors added that Ralph *holds nothing of the King* in the county of Stafford, and that there are of the rent of the free tenants of *Maddley* 18s. 8d. per annum. Of the farm of the mills there. . . . Of the *farm of the villeins* there are yearly £7 9s. 8d. They also say there are in demesne two carucates of land, valued at £6 per annum. Of the aid of the villeins and perquisites there are £6 per annum.

The Subsidy Roll of the 6 E. III. (1327) has some entries which concern the manor. I cite from the original in the Record Office.

Burton and Ricascote (*sic*)—

de Willelmo le Palmere	..	..	xviiij. d.
„ Willelmo Capellano..	..	..	xv. d.
„ Petro Dracun	..	..	xviiij. d.
„ Johe de Doreynton	..	..	ix. d.
„ Rico Kyrn	..	..	ij. s.
„ Rico Attewalle	..	..	ij. s.
„ Roberto Hybenes	..	..	xv. d.
„ Rogo Marel	..	..	xi. d.
„ Rogo le Palmere	..	..	xiiiij. d.
„ Willo de Ricarscote	..	..	xij. d.
Summa	..	..	xiiij. s. iiij. d.

Coppenhall—

Rico de Boterhalle	..	..	iiij. s. vi. d.
Adn Otto	..	..	ij. s. vi. d.
Rico Wyliames	..	..	iiij. s.
Will atte Jake	..	..	ij. s. vi. d.
Rico on the Grene	..	..	xviiij. d.
Stephn Buller	..	..	xx. d.
Nichol Skel	..	..	xvi. d.

Castrum cu' Marisco—

Thoma de Pipe	..	..	iiij. s.
Gilberto le Coke	..	..	xiiij. d.
Willo de Marisco	..	..	xij. d.
Henrico de Marisco	..	..	xj. d.

Felicia le Palmer	..	..	..	xiiij. <i>d.</i>
Willo de Compton	..	..	..	viiij. <i>d.</i>
Willo le Herdamon	..	..	..	viiiij. <i>d. ob.</i>
Forbrugg—				
de Priore St. Johs	..	..	..	iiij. <i>s.</i>
Rico le Heuster..	..	..	..	xij. <i>d.</i>
Willo le Cere ..	..	..	..	ij. <i>s.</i>
Henro le Fischer	..	..	..	vj. <i>d.</i>
Johe le Coupie ..	..	..	..	xij. <i>d.</i>
Rad ^o le Smyth ..	..	..	..	xij. <i>d.</i>
Rico de Oledys ..	..	..	..	xii. <i>d.</i>
Henro le Wudeward	..	..	..	xij. <i>d.</i>
Summa	..	..	..	xxi. <i>s. i. d. ob.</i>

After the Restoration, when Gregory King, then in the service of Dugdale, visited Staffordshire, he made an entry in his note-book¹ that in Castlechurch parish there were at Hide Lee and Burton twelve or fourteen houses, and the principal householders were Mrs. Whitgreve, at Burton Hall; Mr. Thorley, and Mr. Wilson. Rickerscot contained also twelve or fourteen houses; the only householder he names there was Mr. Sampson Barnfield, eldest son of Barnfield of Dunston. At Forbridge on Stafford Green were thirty or forty houses. Besides these, the Lees Farm was Mrs. Worswick's, who was the "widdow mother" of Mr. Thomas Worswick. Finally Mr. Berington had Rowley Hall, and two little houses were at Risonbrook. A little later an ecclesiastical census was taken, in 1676,² which computed the total of parishioners above sixteen years of age apparently, and assigned one hundred and seventy-four to the Conformists, seven to the Papists, and two to the Non-conformists; at a time when the corresponding numbers at Stafford itself were eleven hundred, thirteen, and one hundred and fifty-five.

The freeholders' book for Cuddleston Hundred in 1653, when Robert Ducy was Sheriff, had mentioned at Burton, Tho. Whitgreve, Richard Therley, Will. Bradberry; at Dunston, Thomas Worsley; at Silkmore, Humfrey Gouldsmith; at Rickerscott, Richard Hinton, General Coroner; Willm. Gouldsmith, Francis Egginton.

The list of freeholders, copyholders and leaseholders qualified to serve as jurors in 1764, gives for Burton and Ricarscote the

¹ Salt MS. 147, p. 57.

² Salt MS. 33.

following. John Iturlbutt, yeoman; Abraham Ward, yeoman; Richard Moor, yeoman; John Moor, yeoman.

A manor, and still more an honor or a barony, implied in this country for several centuries, although not so long as in France, an important share of sovereign rights; for a feudal lord was, for centuries, actually sovereign in his own fief towards his tenants and all subject to his jurisdiction; but not more than the King could he, legally, dispense with the intervention of jurors: in his Court Baron these were the Charterers or Freeholders, whilst in his Customary Court the suitors assisted the lord or his steward, who was Judge. All had to be regulated by reasonable customary right. These courts were vexatious, they were obstructive to agriculture, but still they responded to a prevalent tendency not unknown at the present day, in favour of local courts and self-government. The Manor Court has been termed the field of action of the civil life of the community.

If we except the great ecclesiastical manors, scarcely another manor in Staffordshire could compete with Earl Edwin's Manor of Bradeley in the number of its berewicks, members or sub-manors. In Norman times the moat generally marked the manorial residence; the moat rendered the owner safe from surprise; and, when the exercise of the right to crenellate or castellate had been reserved to Royal favour, the Barons, forbidden to build castles, said Dr. Johnson, made themselves inaccessible by moats. In modern times the moat disappears often under the hand of man or as a consequence of artificial drainage or diversion of water-courses. The sites of manor houses can still be traced in the manor of the castle in three instances: one moated enclosure, conjectured to have been that of the "chief messuage" mentioned in the inquisition of Edmund Baron Stafford in the reign of Edward I., is noticeable at the foot of the hills of Stafford Castle and Billington, on the right side of the road leading to the latter place, in a small field through which passes the brook that fed it, called to this day the "Moat Field." The site is to the eye less remarkable for size and conformation than one presently mentioned a mile away at Hyde; the moat is also less striking, but might receive a considerable watershed from the hilly slopes that border it on the east and west, let alone a brook called Crowfoot that flows close to it from the south. The area is two hundred and twelve feet long, and one hundred and twenty-four broad; its longer sides, like those of the Castle, look north and south. From

this measurement this chief messuage, although in a less imposing position, may have actually filled much more space than the Castle, *i.e.*, if we suppose the former set close upon the edge of the plateau, or even if we suppose an ambitus not covered by buildings of two yards all round. Mr. Clifford's Tixall gives the proportion of the ground plot of the Castle, whence I draw the inference that the Castle filled an area of one hundred and twenty feet long by about sixty-two broad. [G.]

Another moated place was Burton, a mile distant from the Castle; but the moat there is now dry, and is used for ornamental purposes. A third field there is, not far from Burton, remarkable for fosses and earthworks; and also, at Hyde Lea, half a mile away one Ordnance map marks out traces of a camp. There seems no doubt of that field having been the site of the manor house of the Bagots of Hyde Lea, so called to distinguish their Hyde from another near Brewood. Hyde Lea occupies a spot on the edge of the Manor of Castre, but still within a mile of the Castle, so that, had we to seek for the ancient seedplot of the second race of Barons, so famous for their grandeur and their misfortunes, more unlikely places might be named.

Other moated places remain, although not in the Manor of the Castle, yet on its border, and especially at Littywood. That Hyde Lea belonged to the Bagots is, however, certain. (See Dugdale's "Warwickshire," under Morton Bagot.) And even at the present day the Tithe Reference Book refers to two large fields, close to Rowley Park, called Upper Bagot's Oak and Lower Bagot's Oak. [H.] They are within a field or two of Hyde Lea, midway between it and the Castle. Walter Chetwynd called the Bagots of Hyde Lea the chief branch, but he thought the Domesday tenant of Bramselle (which place he agrees with Mr. Eyton in regarding as Bramshall and not Bromley) to be undoubted progenitor to the several branches which afterwards flourished at Blymhill, Brineton, and Hyde in this county, and at Baginton and Preston Bagod in Warwickshire. This same learned writer cites a deed in the possession of Sir Walter Bagot, Baronet, to show that in the time of King Henry II. Hugh Bagot passed certain lands at Bromley to one Norman, whose son William re-conveyed to Nicholas Bagod, his son and heir. In the time of King John, Simon Bagott wrote himself, he adds, lord of this place; but he had not then the whole manor, for Sir Hugh Bagod, Knight, his son, not long after purchased the fourth part of it from Henry the son of Wymar in fee

farme, paying to his heirs 2 markes yearly. This Sir Hugh and Richard his son bare for their arms, as appears by their seals on a roll of arms made in the time of King Henry III.: Ermine 2 chevronells azure. From them descended Sir Ralph, Knight, who in the time of King Edward III. married Elizabeth daughter and heir of Richard de Blythfield in her mother's right, who was Lord of Blythfield, who was Lord of Bromley by inheritance, of Blythfield in his mother's right, and of Field by an exchange with the Abbot of Burton.

Ulpherus de Coppenhall appears as witness to an early Stafford deed in the Seile Cartulary (see "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. I., pp. 182, 198; circa 1140, says General Wrottesley), and from Ulpherus, according to notes by Huntetach and Loxdale (Salt MS.), Hyde passed to William Bagot by deed, *s.d.*, cited by Huntetach, MS. 142, No. 306. Ulferus de Copenhall granted to William Bagott half his lands in Copenhall and the way that leadeth to *Hyde* that he holds against a wood in Butterhall. Also Richard the son of Simon de Butterhall granted to Ralph son of the Baron of Stafford, a half obolus rent in the *Manor of Hyde and Copenhall* which he used to pay to Henry de Butterhall, Lord of Butterhall, for the same manor. (Shaw MS. 390; Coppenhall.) Two brothers, Galfrid and Robert de Copenhall, appear as benefactors in the Stone Cartulary; the one of land in Copenhale, the other of an annual rent of 2s. in Buttrehale. ("Staffordshire Collections," Vol. I., p. 182.)

Buttrehall is not in the Castle Parish, if we mention it, it is because it is connected somewhat with the descent of Hyde Lea. Butterhall (Butterhill) appears again in the escheat enumerating the Staffordshire estates of the first Earl of Stafford (I.P.M. 46 Ed. III., m. 62), where it immediately follows Hide Coppenhall, Tillington, Castel, Forbridge, Stafford.

Afterwards ("Chancery Proceedings," *temp.* Eliz., Vol. I., p. 191) Edward Howell claims by demise against Edmond Grene, Dorothy his wife, and William Cauke, a messuage and lands thereto belonging in Butterrell, sometime the inheritance of Ralph Grene, and held under a lease for lives granted by the said Grene.

Again ("Chancery Proceedings," *temp.* Eliz., Vol. I., p. 77), Daniel Bannister claimed by descent, with what result appears not, against Mary Sticke a messuage and land in Butterhill.

Loxdale's and Huntetach "Additions to Erdeswicke," after saying of Burton that it was Lord Stafford's in the time of the Conquest,

and Earl Edwin's before, proceed thus: "Near are the Hide fields and Hyde Ley, and the ruins of an ancient place called the Hyde, of which nothing is now remaining save the Pools and the Moat. William Bagot of the Hyde juxta Stafford bore Argent 2 chevrons az., and lived here, Mr. Dugdale tells us in his 'Warwickshire.' He was younger brother of Harvey Bagot, who married Milicent de Stafford. If tradition can be relied on, it (Hyde) went after by daughters to the Lords Stafford and Verneys, by whose descendants it is still enjoyed." The above cited "Additions" adds that the estate (Hyde seems intended) is mentioned in Domesday Book among Lord Stafford's villis, though now quite depopulated. A little to the south stands Copenhall, the Lord Stafford's at the Conquest, but since by the aforesaid match the Verneys' (Note, "Salt MS. 158, p. 194.") I have inserted this note at length for several reasons. I think Hyde Lea is here spoken of as mentioned in Domesday. It is not expressly so mentioned, it may be impliedly. It may be included under one of two of the Domesday villis of Robert de Stafford, *i.e.*, either Burton or Copenhall, between which it may be said to be situated. It may again be the very anonymous manor, the only anonymous one, described in Domesday amongst Robert de Stafford's estates as follows:—

"Robert holds two hides, and Urfer from him. Uluricus held it [*i.e.*, in the time of Edward], and was a liber homo. There is arable land for two ploughs, and there are seven villeins and five boors with two carucates. There is a mill of 12*d.*, and a furlong of wood. It is worth (*valet*) 16*s.*"

This Saxon thane-name Uluric often occurs in the census, as the name of one who had held under both Kings, as a tenant *in capite*, indeed as son of one who held in "alod," allodially, from King Edward. He is named as, Venator, as thane, as sochemannus, as a liber homo, as a liegeman of Stigand Archbishop; and in many different ways does the name occur besides, and generally in a way that marks the bearer as of high rank, or as King's thane.

Urfer on the other hand is never named in Domesday except as under tenant; twice he is so in Staffordshire, and once in Warwickshire; always under tenant of Robert de Stafford. In the latter county he held one hide, and a virgate at a place called Ulwarditone, where in the previous reign his predecessor had been Simund a Dane. In Staffordshire he held under Robert de Stafford two estates, one of three, the other of two hides; both had been held in Edward's time by Uluric. The estates were in Cuddleston

Hundred; that of three hides was Haughton, that of two hides the unnamed manor above referred to.

Ulpher (A.D. 1122-25), General Wrottesley thinks, may be the Urfer of Domesday ("Staffordshire Collections," Vol. II., p. 119), which encourages me to think that really the manor which he held may have been, as I have said, the anonymous manor in Domesday.

It says of Coppenhall, "3 liberi homines held it before the Norman time." The "Liber Niger" speaks of Geoffrey de Copenhale as having two parts of a knight's fee in demesne.

It appears twice from feodaries not of later date than E. I., that Robert de Copenhale held a knight's fee there of the fee of Morteyn [see the Teste de Nevil *apud* Stebbing Shaw Appendix to "General History of Staffordshire," Vol. I., pp. 25 to 27], and that William Bagot held one also at Hyde.

Mr. Eyton, "Antiquities of Shropshire," Vol. III., pp. 25, 26, from the position in the text of Domesday Book of the anonymous manor between those of Ridware and Halton (Haughton), and from both being held by Urfer, doubted not Urfer to have been ancestor of the de Halughtons, who afterwards held Weston Jones, which he therefore takes to have been the anonymous manor, but from seemingly insufficient grounds. General Wrottesley's conjecture that Urfer and Ulpher of Coppenhall were the same person, leads rather to the conclusion that the anonymous manor was really Hyde Ley. Hyde was also between Rydware and Halton, and far nearer to both than was Weston Jones. Weight is not always to be attributed in identification to mere proximate position in the text of Domesday Book, but it seems to be Mr. Eyton's principal reason for thinking Weston Jones the anonymous manor.

"Depopulated," say the annotators of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. But could it ever have been populous? Ancient it certainly was. Dr. Wilkes wrote long ago that the name of the adjoining vill, Burton, standing without any additional description, denoted an existence prior to the Burton which was distinguished by the description of, "upon Trent." I do not know whether much weight can be attached to such a contention. But the principal word Burton in each instance justifies us in supposing an ancient Saxon town with artificial defences. And these, no doubt, in perilous times, would, as the boroughs of the twelfth and subsequent centuries did, attract inhabitants. Hyde Lea and Burton have often been named together, but nothing but their near vicinity lends countenance to any notion that they were one manor. On

the contrary, Hyde Lea has disused roads in its vicinity, and contains remarkable earthworks. They are suggestive indeed of works thrown up at different times and by different races, and perhaps for different purposes; perhaps some to deepen pools or constitute defences, that no doubt at some time or other had led to struggles. But the separate inheritance of mesne tenants of the Barons, of which Hyde Lea appears to have been part, led to a different kind of struggle, namely, one between junior races of the Staffords, faintly alluded to by Erdeswick under Bramshall. [Y.]

It was the fate of this founder of Staffordshire history never to have had his original MS. carefully collated. The original is buried somewhere, or has somehow disappeared. [Y.] The edition of 1717, followed by, and substantially the same as that of 1723, was certainly very faulty; still it preserved in one instance a true descent where the latest editor, Mr. Harwood, gives an erroneous one; compare page 512, line 6, of the edition of 1844, where Sir Humphry Stafford with the silver hand has been erroneously made brother instead of father of Alice Cheynie.

This estate of Hyde, called Hyde near Burton, or Stafford, to distinguish it from another estate of similar name near Brewood, contains eminent proof in itself of ancient importance in its above mentioned earthworks. Hyde Lea and Littywood each appear to have been used for defensive purposes by more than a single race; the Normans adding interior defences to those previously existent. If the first constructors of those at Littywood were Normans, there seems nothing surprising, for caution would have taught them to establish smaller outposts some miles occasionally away from their principal lines of communication, in vicinities where forests abounded, and numerous assailants were likely to seek their shelter.

BILLINGTON.

Of Billington only a small part is now in the Castle Parish. The registers make mention of a Chapel there, and a field is still called Chapel Field. Robert Lees, in his will of 6th January, 1546, gives "yerely for ever to the priest for the time being celebrating in the Chapel at Billington xij*d*." [I.]

THE HYDES.

The ancient disused road, the moated fields at Hyde, the elevated camp-like plateau of Hyde Ley, to which an ordnance map accords

the honour of a Roman camp, the moated house of Burton, once the estate of the Palmers, and the proximity of these places to the caput of the Norman barony, have all concurred no doubt to assign early importance to this vicinity. Burton is mentioned in Domesday Book as a berewick of Bradeley, and consequently as part of the fief of Robert de Stafford.

It is impossible to examine that plateau, of a side of which the town of Hyde Lea is a centre, where the road from Burton to Coppenhall is crossed by two others, of which that on the right leads to a disused green road at right angles to it that points on one side toward Butterhill and Littywood, and on the other toward Rowley and the Castle Hill; impossible to observe the conformation of the surrounding fields, and especially of those on the west, where, in several adjoining enclosures, without a stone or timber to mark human habitations, remain undoubted indications of human contrivance, and not be struck by something very worthy of attention. For we recognize a spot where, in olden times, men must have congregated for purposes of isolation or defence in times of peril. The principal enclosure is called in detailed maps the Moats, and in popular language, the Castle. Into this depository there are marks of drainage from fields to the south-west, and from a spring close at hand. The fields bear the name to this day of Spring Fields. It is, as I have said before, very probably the estate "without a name" in the Staffordshire Domesday, which belonged to Robert de Stafford as tenant *in capite*, and to Urfer as mesne tenant. On the south is still a woody piece corresponding to the furlong of wood therein enumerated, and out of its extremity from a reedy pit issues a brook that fed the pools, and then having a way cut or enlarged for it into an adjoining meadow, trends as "the Rising Brook" through Burton and Rickerscote; and having again been arrested in Silkmore to feed the pool of the ancient Leper House of Radford, it comes to bear the name Spital Brook, and finally winds its way towards the point of confluence of the Penk with the Sow.

The embankments or causeways of unusual proportions which in several directions border what once were pools seem, it has been suggested, intended to resist the weight of great quantities of accumulated water; whereas the rude hedges rather than banks that rise still higher to the south-west and north-east on the outer sides, may in times comparatively modern have been com-

posed of excavated earth, and there thrown together to permit the escape of water no longer required either for defence or for mills; the former useless on the times becoming less disturbed, the latter dispensed with by the more recent invention of windmills. It is not without consideration and examination that I have alluded to the furlong of wood as serving to identify this Domesday estate. I have compared the little wood that remains with the entry in the Domesday account, and that upon a modern tithe map (six chains to the inch) I find the wood nine chains long, and breadthways at the extremity adjoining the Moats it is a chain, but it grows less and less wide towards the other, the further, extremity. Upon the whole the present state of this wood appears to me very corroborative of its identity with the furlong of sylvia in the unnamed estate in Domesday. No doubt it is much more limited in area (*i.e.*, one acre one rood and thirty perches instead of ten acres), but undiminished in length, and following the water itself from its source. We must allow for owners from time to time having encroached upon its ancient limits, and "essarted" upon one or both of the sides, but left its impracticable watercourse intact. Eight centuries have elapsed since it was first described in the census, and if it has dwindled, it has certainly done so less than has been the case with English woods generally. Compare what concerns the wood with Mr. Eyton's computation as to the furlongs of wood in his "Dorsetshire Survey," p. 27, and what concerns the mill, with the remarks in the same "Survey" at p. 41.

Hyde was, as the word denotes, a place geldable or taxable for national defence, "hidata" as it was termed. Hyde was, like Burton, of two hides. It is not likely to have been neglected in the Census, so that more remains to justify the inference already drawn, that the anonymous manor really was this place; the Domesday officials not having any but imperfect knowledge, did not realise the truth that Hyde or Hydes was the local name of two Hides, which they in their hesitation perhaps preferred to leave specially unnamed. If in point of fact the original note taken upon the spot did not give to the estate the very name of "two Hides," and the revisers misapprehending this, did not omit the name of the two Hides, thinking it a mere repetition of the geldable value. And we may remember that the term "Hide or hides" often does occur as the designation of Saxon manors. So we have Half Hide in Pirehill Hundred, Five hides in co.

Somerset; as also twelve "Hides Hundred" at Glastonbury, as to both which see Eyton's "Domesday Studies for Somersetshire," pp. 144-5. But whether it was so or not, the place must have been important, and we know that at an early date it fell to the Bagots, and remained a century or two in their hands, until it was purchased or acquired by the then chief of their family and its first Earl.

The estate of Hyde Lea at an early date formed part of the Manor of "Castre." Whether at the date of the great Census it belonged to Bradeley I cannot say, but even then the first Chief de Stafford was tenant *in capite*. No doubt it had been part of Earl Edwin's escheat, and a very remarkable one. It lies between Copenhall and Butrehill on one side, and Burton on the other, and has been alternately spoken of in records in connexion both with Copenhall and with Burton. Indeed it is possible that in early times the lords of Coppenhall were the lords also of Hyde Lea, which may account for the latter name not being so prominent; still it always has been more so than Buttrehill and less often confounded with Coppenhall. The confusion as to Hyde Lea may however be attributable to another cause. In the "Testa de Nevill" (*apud* Stebbing Shaw, "Hist. Gen.," App., Vol. I., p. xxv.) we find Hyde described as the Manor of Hyde alone; this was in the reign of King Edward I., when it is assigned to William Bagot, and held as one knight's fee from Nicholas Baron of Stafford. Long previously W. . . . *Bagot de la Yde* stands as first witness to a deed confirming a grant of Drayton to the Convent of St. Thomas the Martyr near Stafford. The previous grant was by Harvey Bagot, the fifth Baron. William de Stafford in his confirmation, said therein to be with the assents of his lord and brother *Hervey Bagot*, and of his lady and mother Miliscent, expressly terms the first grantor his *father* Hervey. The confirmation to which as I have said W. . . . *Bagot de la Yde* stands as first witness, has also attached other witnesses' names in the following order: Eudo de Mer de Dulverne, Robert del Bec, John de Salt, Hugh de Dokeseye, Hugh de Haenegate, Gerard de la Lehe, Godfrey de Thomas de Borton, Richard son of Musse, Will. son of Robert, Walter Wunian, William son of Will (*sic*) Wimer, and many others. The deed is indorsed, "Carta Hervei bakot." It may be remarked as singular and important that the second son of Hervey Bagot and Miliscent calls himself Will. de Stafford, and calls his elder brother Hervey, Hervey Bagot. See

the confirmation at large in the first vol. of the "Collect. Top. et Genealogica," p. 249.

Dugdale ("Warwickshire," p. 567) and Walter Chetwynd ("Pirehill Hundred MS.," p. 251, transcript in W. Salt Library) thought all these families sprang from a common ancestor with Harvey, himself a younger son, who since assumed the name of Stafford, and became the founder of the second famous race of the Barons of that name. The identity of the Hyde branch and of the Warwickshire branch I infer from dower in the Bagot manors in Warwickshire at Moreton and Lockesley, and in Staffordshire at Hyde and Coppenhall, being claimed by Ascira or Azilia widow of Robert Bagot ("Staffordshire Collections," Vol. IV., p. 117; *ibid.*, p. 118, Vol. pp. 167, 182). And if Thomas del Hyde mentioned as holding Blymhill with three others from Nicholas Baron de Stafford in the time of Edward I. be not of the other Hyde near Brewood, such tenure tends to show the identity of the Bagots of Hyde and Blymhill. See Feodary (T. E. I.), cited in Stebbing Shaw's "Hist. Testa de Nevil," App. to Gen. Hist., Vol. I., p. 25.

The Bagots of this branch appear to have parted with their interest in their Hyde estate about the thirty-third year of Edward II., for such is to be inferred from a deed cited by Walter Chetwynd in his "Hist. of Pirehill Hundred," Salt Library transcript MS. 40, p. 260. [H.]

The Duchy of Lancaster Records (43 D. K. Rep. App. Part I. pp. 304, 210) mention the courts held for "Forbrugge and Chirche Eyton," and the report states that the following Staffordshire places are conspicuously alluded to therein, 12 and 13 E. I., *i.e.*, *Apeton*, *Arleston* (?), *Berton* (*Barton*), *Billyngton*, *Bradeley*, *Burgh*, *Burton*, *Eyton*, *Longnore*, *Madeleye*, *Mitton*, *Orselowe*, *Ricardescote*, *Rule*, *Shrudicote*, *Tillyngton*. The places italicised were nearly all in the old Manor of Bradley, and some in the present Manor of the Castle. How they came to be so mentioned in those Duchy records the calendar does not show, but may be guessed, for those estates in the Honor of Stafford, had, I think, most, if not all, become the appanage of a junior branch of the Bagot Staffords, that is, the branch sprung from the Knight to whom also Bramshall had been given, and from which descended the Humphrey Stafford Earl of Devon, on whose attainder the estates were seized, and restored afterwards, after a litigation between two other branches of the same family, to whose benefit, notwithstanding the attainder of Humphrey, they inured owing to a settlement made long before

that attainer. Upon this subject, see Rolls of Parliament, *tempore* H. VII., p. 325. [Y.]

The subject of this second ennobled branch of the House of Stafford has a bearing upon the status of the principal branch: for not only did that second branch give birth to the other Stafford families of Hoke, Southwick, Devon, and Grafton, but several of its members became distinguished in the State, and others marked in the fifteenth century as dignitaries of the Church; whilst others interest in a different sense, as fugitives to sanctuaries or subjects of attainer; upon which subjects the reader may find abundant evidence not only in the general history of England and in the Baronage, but in the different county histories.

The connexion of the Bagots of Hyde with those of Bramshall, and of both with Harvey Bagot and Miliscent de Stafford his wife, is evidenced by the charters that support the titles of each of the branches of those ancient families. A family settlement was made upon William a second son, who styled himself de Stafford, although his father was Harvey Bagot, perhaps the better to distinguish himself from an uncle William Bagot. The settlement embraced the Bramshall estate; and William de Stafford's descendants, who were also ennobled as Earls of Devon, held it in conjunction with many other original Stafford estates, and especially Hyde. Thus it came to pass that many manors, some parts of, or very near the principal manor of the Barons Stafford, such as Rickerscote and Coppenhall, became the inheritance of the Staffords called of Hooke. For upon the inquisition *p.m.* 12 Ed. IV., on the death of Sir Humphrey Stafford, Knight, he is found to have died seised of the Hyde, with other adjacent or neighbouring estates, notably those of Penkrich, Littlewood, Covenhale (? Coppenhall), as well as of Perton, Amelcote, Bromshulf, and Lyttley (Luttley), all in Staffordshire. Many of these have it is believed descended to Lord Willoughby de Brooke through the Verneys, Grevilles, and other partitioners.

From an entry of the marriage settlement of Lady Ann Nevil and other documents in Box 134 in the Court of Wards and Liveries, of the reign respectively of Ed. VI., Eliz., and James I., to which Grevilles and Brookes, Lady Ann Nevil and the Dowager Lady Catherine Westmorland are parties, it seems that the Manor of Hyde-Coppenhall had been somehow settled on the successive marriages of the first-named Lady. (Ninth Report of the Dep. Keeper, 61-2.)

BUTTREHILL.

At Buttrehill (called Butrehale in an ancient deed in Mr. Eyton's "Stafford Cartularly Collections for Staffordshire," Vol. I., p. 182, and Vol. III., p. 275) stands a disused windmill, not old, but of solid construction, which, with the estate, now belongs to Lord Hatherton. When Copenhall and Hyde formerly came into one owner's hands, a windmill so placed would probably supersede any older water mill at Hyde, depending upon uncertain water supply; indeed, if I am right in calling this the anonymous estate of Domesday Book, I must take it with the mill there mentioned, which was only of 12*d.* (See *supra*, pp. 29 and 33, and footnote below.)

Butterhill is on the south-west of Hyde, and is entirely in Copenhall Parish; but of the Hyde estate, seemingly a part was in Copenhall, and a part in Castre.

BURTON.

Burton to the north-east of both was, we have seen, a member of Bradeley when Domesday Book was compiled. Whether there was a mesne tenant of importance at an earlier date than the Palmers we know not, nor are we positively certain that Burton was one of the prebends of the King's Chapel at Stafford, and paid it its tithes. Blurton, not Burton, is called a prebend in the "Valor Ecclesiasticus" of the time of Henry VIII. From its proximity to Trentham Abbey, we would expect Blurton to have contributed to that Foundation, and this we perhaps find was the case. Compare upon this subject the petition of the inhabitants of Blurton, and in the Chapelry of the same name of the parish of Trentham, where the tythes are said to amount to £30 per annum, and to be parcel of Sir Richard Leveson's impropriate Rectory of Trentham. (Abstract of Royal Compositions in "Salt Library," Vol. I., p. 387.) So that it seems rather that there is an error of one letter "l" too many in the account in the "Valor

[NOTE.] Noteworthy is it that a field on the north side of the Hyde estate is called also the Windmill Field. A memorandum in the Ronton Cartulary, *s.d.*, but in a hand of the sixteenth century ("Collections," Vol. IV., p. 295), speaks of certain fields as exchanged by Robert Whitgreave, which were situate between the park of the Castle and the park of the Hyde and the demeane of Bilyngton. Near the moats of Hydefield several fields between them and Copenhall are called by names indicating that they had once formed a park.

Ecclesiasticus" of the constituents of the prebends of the King's Chapels at Stafford. Mr. Harwood has taken this for granted, for he reads Burton in the Commentary, edition 1843, p. 145, as the Prebend Burton, without even adverting to Blurton. I cannot affirm this to be correct, but I see an argument in favour of it from the Palmers being afterwards mesne owners of the former and the name Palmer appearing in early Subsidy Rolls, and in the Inquisitions of the Nones. In the latter Roger le Palmer presents himself at the head of the twelve jurators for the parish of Saint Mary, Stafford. In the Nones, p. 128, and in the Subsidy Roll, it is William le Palmer who heads the list for Burton. [O.]

A noke of land and the half of a messuage in Burton near Stafford was by a fine of 23 E. I. (1295) acknowledged by the deforciants Thomas le Say de Mefford (?) and Clemence his wife to belong to the demandant Richard de la Dune, who gave to the former thereupon six marks.

The heir of Roger Taylor is said to hold half a fee in Burton in an inquest of knights' fees, *temp.* Richard II.; *apud* Shaw, "History," Vol. I., Introductory matter xxxiii.

We have seen that the Palmers were there previously as owners. Dugdale treats the Palmers of Merston near Stafford as of the Yorkshire family of that name. His words are, "Sir William Palmer, now of Clerkenwell in the county of Middlesex, Knight, a branch of those Palmers of Yorkshire (by a younger son that settled at Merston [Marston] in Staffordshire), who bear for their arms argent upon two barrs gules (? sable), three trefoils of the first with a greyhound in chief sable." This family are frequently mentioned in the registers of St. Mary's, Stafford, to which it gave two Rectors. It became allied to the Stafford families of Dorington, Cradock, Archdale, and Eld. Whether it was connected in blood with the Palmers of Burton I have no evidence before me to show, but it is certain that from the latter the estate at Burton near Stafford passed to the Whitgreaves, and accordingly Walter Chetwynd ("Pirehill Hundred" MS. transcript, p. 195) says that Robert Whitgreave purchased amongst other estates the greatest part of Burton near Stafford, which he left at his death, in 27 H. VI., to Humfrey his son and heir. Subsequently in the inquisition on the death of T. Rugeley, 6 E. VI., he was found to have held Ricardescote from Humfrey Whitgreave.

Fortunately, in the absence of other evidence, much information respecting important members of the large Manor of Castre during the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries may be gathered from the inquisitions at the deaths of the several owners, of which abstracts are in the Salt Library. These members we find for the greater part termed manors themselves in documents subsequent to the Reformation.

I select the principal notices :—

Thus by an inquisition taken at the death of Hugh Stafford, Knight, *temp.* H. VI., *m.* 33, he left to his cousin and heir Humfrey Earl of Stafford, with other property in Stafford and its vicinity, the "Port Milles in Forebrigge;" and by inquisition *p.m.* dated 36 H. VIII., *m.* 168, A.D. 1345, Richard Harecourt, Esq., was found to have held lands at Billington, Dunston, Ricardescote, and Burton. The first two he held from Lord Stafford and Ursula his wife; that at Ricardescote, consisting of a messuage and tenements with the appurtenances, from Thomas Salte, by fealty only, valued 10*s.*; whilst that at Burton, consisting of a messuage and land and tenements, appearing worth 16*s.*, he had held also, by fealty only, from Richard Palmer. Thus notwithstanding previous alienations by the Palmers, we find them here and elsewhere regarded as having a paramount title, although with almost nominal renders; and yet still these renders, until the final abolition of tenure in chivalry, were a reservation which, the occasion arising, might be found of substantial importance, but would sometimes be forgotten or ignored. Mary, wife of William Viscount Stafford, who was heiress in her own right, evinced no disposition in such respect to give way with respect to the Honors of Thornbury and Oldbury in the county of Gloucester. See her complaint of Hicks, addressed to the Commissioners in the Royalist Compositions (Salt Abstract, Vol. VI., p. 133).

Thomas Stamford died on the 13th January, in the 23 H. VIII., A.D. 1532. At his death William his son, aged thirty-one, became his heir. On the inquisition *p.m.* (34 H. VIII., 32, A.D. 1543) his property is described as one messuage, three cottages, three gardens, sixty acres of land, three hundred of pasture, forty of pasture, and forty of meadow, with the appurtenances, situate respectively at Rowley near Stafford, at fforbridge, at Burton near Stafford, at Ricarscott, and at Plardewyk. In Stafford borough he had six burghages with the appurtenances, held from the Chapel of the King in Stafford, and worth £9; at fforagate Stafford and fforagate Fields; at Tillington, and Coton near Stafford, six cottages, six gardens, fifty

acres of land twenty acres of pasture, forty acres of meadow, with the appurtenances. The messuage, a cottage, garden land, pasture and meadow aforesaid at Rowley and fforbridge he held from Henry Stafford and Ursula his wife in soccage, worth £11. The land at Burton and Ricarscote he held from Richard Palmer in soccage, value 50s.; the land at Plardewick he held from the Prior of Shene in soccage, value 16s.; that at Tillington he held from Henry Stafford and his wife Ursula in soccage, value 17s. 4d.; whilst the land in fforegate Stafford, fforegate Field and Coton, he held from the Prior of Shene in soccage, value 62s.

Thomas held also from the Queen the Harvey Prebend of the lately dissolved foundation of the Collegiate Church of Stafford, which had long belonged to it, as above.

Thomas held also at Denson (Denston) a messuage and land of Elizabeth Row, and other tenements there, in the holding of Thomas Madeley, &c.

Thomas held also divers houses and edifices at Shrewsbury, with gardens, as from the bailiffs of the aforesaid vill in burgage.

William Stanford, Knight, who died in the first year of Edward VI., A.D. 1547, and who held land and manors at Handsworth and at Perry Barr, is not mentioned in the inquisition taken at his death to have held any of the Castle-church lands mentioned in that of Thomas Stanford. But William Stanford, Esq., who died on the 29th of June in the 12 Elizabeth, A.D. 1571, leaving another William son of Edward Stanford his cousin and heir, is mentioned to hold not only lands at Great Sardon, from Simon Harcourt, Esq., as of his Manor of Great Sardon, and burgages in Stafford from the bailiffs in free burgage by fealty only, and Packington Manor from Lord Paget and Handsworth from Robert Stanford as of his manor there, but also the Manor of Rowley and two messuages and lands in fforbridge and at "Risom" (Rising) Brook and Tillington, all from Lord Stafford; also messuages and lands at Burton and Ricarscote, and also from the Dean and Free Chapel of Wolverhampton, as of their manor a messuage and land at Hatherton by fealty only.

Robert Whitegreve, Esq., died 30th December; an inquisition *p.m.* of the 23rd September following, 5 E. VI., A.D. 1552, found his heir to be Humphrey his son, aged twenty-four years. In addition to the Manor of Great Bridgeford, the two water mills and the land there, as well as Foregate and Over Rule and other possessions in Bradeley, Ronton, and Gnosall, Robert had held a capital messuage tenement and other premises in Burton near Stafford from

Randle Palmer of Burton as of his Manor of Burton by fealty and a rent of 4*½*d.; also in the same Burton, eight acres of land, twenty acres of meadow, forty acres of pasture, and ten acres moor with the appurtenances of the same capital messuage; also two tenements in the several holdings of Robert Spoks and William Goldsmith; also forty acres of land, ten acres of meadow, and thirty acres of pasture with the appurtenances of the same tenements, and the same capital messuage and other premises to the same belonging, and the meadow called the Willas Dole, valued £6; also the aforesaid tenements in the holding of Robert Spoks and William Goldsmith, valued at 40*s*.

The Deanery of Stafford was granted to Henry Lord Stafford 4th April, 4 E. VI., never having before been, I think, any possession of his family. Its site, demesne, and other parts had on the 19th May, 2 E. VI., been leased to Sir Randle Bagnal, Knight (Harl. MS. 601, fo. 1; Gough MS. in the Bodleian, see Salt transcript, p. 118). But in the year first mentioned it was Lord Stafford who sold, and a Henry Polsted who released them to John Maynard. Forty acres, part of them, were in Castle Parish, but with the Church had from a remote date belonged to the endowment of the Deanery of St. Mary's, Stafford (*ibidem*, and *supra*, p. 21). These acres still preserve, although divided, the names of Dean's Hill, Dean's Meadow, and Dean's Croft, as they were named in the description having Lord Henry's name subscribed amongst the Records of the Augmentation Office (Gough MS. and *supra*). [Appendix I.] The transaction was perhaps an exchange, the Crown receiving back the Manor of Essington in Holderness, previously granted to the attainted Duke's son by patent of the 23 H. VIII., for which see Appendix. Later it was re-granted to him and his wife. [I.]

John Maynard, Esq., died on the 6th November, 4 and 5 Philip and Mary, A.D. 1558, and left daughters as co-heiresses, viz., Frances aged eighteen, Elizabeth seventeen, and Susan thirteen years of age. The inquisition *p.m.* recites his will, from which it appeared that he had held the Deanery of the late College or Collegiate Church, with the appurtenances, and all the messuages, lands and tenements and other premises to the same pertaining, *in capite* from the King and Queen, by the service of the fortieth part of a knight's fee, worth £42. [G.]

Elizabeth Sparry died on the 5th August, 24 Elizabeth, A.D. 1582, leaving William Sparry her son and heir at the age of twenty. The inheritance comprised amongst other things the Deanery of

Stafford, and a capital messuage and garden adjacent, formerly in the tenure of Robert Cotterell, Dean, formerly belonging to the Deanery, also the Dean's Field, the Dean's Meadows, The Dean's Croft, formerly in the holding of William Stanford, gentleman, and situate in Castle Parish and . . . ; the arable land in Hopton (?), called the Deanery, once also called the One Hundred Acres; and all the lands, meadow, and pasture in Whitgreave, once in the tenure of Robert Harcourt, gentleman, and called the Deanery, once belonging to the Deanery; the great tithes of hay, and lambs, swine, and other tithes. . . and (those) in the Parish of Castle Church of St. Mary in Stafford, belonging to the said Deanery; 16s. 8d. rent in Whitgreave; 2s. frith fees from the inhabitants of Whitegreave, held *in capite*, and as the third part of a knight's fee; finally it is added that Forbridge, Burton, Ricarscote, Hopton, Tillington, Creswell, Ingestre, and Tixall, hold the aforesaid extent.

Again, Edward Stanford, gentleman, died 24th May, 40 Elizabeth, and left his son William at the age of twenty-five his heir. The said Edward had one messuage and one close, lately belonging to Stone Priory; one croft called the Friars' Orchard, the Friars' Field, and a meadow and tithes of grain and hay thence accruing; also the site of the St. Augustin Friars of Stafford, *in capite*, as the twentieth part of a knight's fee.

Finally, Robert Stanford, Knight, died on the 20th March, 4 James I., and left his son Edward his heir, aged forty. In addition to the manors and lands at Handsworth and Perry Bank, and Packington above mentioned, the inquisition at his death found Robert to have held the Manor of Rowley with appurtenances, also the property, once the Augustine Friars', before mentioned, with the whole of the cemetery, from the King *in capite*, as the one hundredth part of a knight's fee.

When William Cradock, Esq., died, in the 1st James, A.D. 1603, leaving Thomas his son and heir aged twenty-three, the inquisition *p.m.* describes part of the inheritance as having been in Burton, Ricarscote, and fforbridge, and to have included eight-ninths of the Deanery of Stafford.

FOREBRIDGE.

Dr. Wilkes, more than a hundred and forty years ago, wrote: "On the south side of the river, immediately as soon as you are over the bridge, is a village called Forebridge, and the Green, in the Castle Parish. This place has been famous for the great benefactions

it received from the noble family of the Staffords. Here was a religious house belonging to the Friars Minors,¹ founded by one of this family, as also an hospital for sick poor people, though now they are both demolished. The inhabitants of this place, on the 24th of December, do each of them receive 4*l.* yearly from the constable to buy them a plum pudding on Christmas Day."

We find some ancient evidences concerning this "Forburg" of Stafford, which is also a member of the Manor of the Castle. [G.]

By fine passed 17 E. I. (1289), the complainant, Ralph le Tenturyr de Stafford, received by the gift of Richard de Lutteleye and Alice his wife two messuages, fourteen acres of land, and one-and-a-half acre of meadow in Forburgg by Stafford. Ralph was to render to Richard de Lutteleye and Alice his wife a rose yearly for all accustomed services, and, as the fine, one sore sparrow-hawk was given to him.

. . . Smith had a grant in Forebridge from King Edward VI. (see Proceedings in Chancery Record Publications, Eliz. Reginae, sed incerti anni, p. 182). The Proceedings in Chancery, *temp.* Eliz., p. 182, contain a record of a suit without its issue by Edward Lees against John Bamford, Humfrey Woodall, and others, in which Lees claimed cottages and land in Forebridge near Stafford demised to him and to others by Henry Lord Stafford, Ursula his wife, and Henry their son.

From an early deed in the Winnington Collection, abstracted by Mr. Hamper in 1813, it would seem that Richard de Lega left a daughter Agnes, with her two daughters Alice and Agnes, entitled to two houses and appurtenances in Forebrugge by Stafford. One house had formerly belonged to William de Kersewell, and the other house had been the share (fourth it is called) of Sibyl, once wife of William Coupelont, Clerk, and a second share Sibyl's sister Petronilla had been enfeoffed of by a deed of Alicia's. And then it is added, that Thomas Buselard had an equal share in the last mentioned house. The house or houses are said to be situate between the house and curtilages of Adam de Stapeleye and the house and curtilage which Marey Eremete formerly held, extending in length and breadth from the King's highway (*a regali via*), leading from the vill of Stafford in the direction of the Lepers'

¹ The Friars Minors was a foundation of the Staffords, but in the liberties of the town itself, i.e., in the Foregate. Dr. Wilkes means in the above passage to refer to the Austin Friars, who had a hospital in the manor close to the south of the town, of which hereafter. It was also a Staffordshire foundation.

House of Rotford (Radford), as far as the land of the Hospital house of St. John the Baptist which lies near the bridge of Stafford. Agnes with her two daughters transfer their interest to Adam Arnekock of Betley and to his wife Sibyl. The history of the property is carried on by a second deed. [M.]

From the same abstract as follows: 2 E. II. By deed dated at Forebrug the Sunday next after the Invention of Holy Cross, Adam Arnekoc of Bettilegh of Forebrug and Sibill his wife grant Richard son of Hugh le Bulkere of Ruggeleye and Margery his wife a messuage with garden, etc., in Forebrugge, lying as above. Consideration, eleven marks and a half. *Hijis testibus: Robto Monys de Ricardescote. Rico le palm de Bourton, Rico Tinctore de Forebrugge, Rico fil Henr. Kyri de Ricardescote, Willo de Frodeswalle, Willo de Wrtaston (?), Rico de Bourton, clico, et aliis.* (First seal gone, second oval of green wax, a star, and around it . . . "SIBILLA . VESOR . AD 'ARNNC . . .") [M.]

From the same abstract the following: 11 E. II., by deed dated at Stafford the Saturday after St. Peter and St. Paul, William the Sumenur of Stafford grants to Sir Roger Trumwyn, Knight, and to Lady Joan his wife a pleok of land with house thereupon in Forebrugge, between his own land and the land of Hugh the Miller, in breadth and in length from the King's highway leading from Stafford towards Pencrich to the land of William the son of John the Weaver (*Textoris*). *Hijis testibus: Johe de Wenlok, Rogero de Titnesover, Johe de Pykestok, Willo de Waley, Rico Godfrey de Bilynton, Rico le Heuster de Stafford, Roberto le Rotur, et aliis.* The aforesaid Sir Roger Trumwyn, Knight, was twice Sheriff of Staffordshire (he was succeeded by his son Roger, whose inquisition *p.m.*, 36 E. III., shows the son left no heirs male; see the first Roger's wife Joan in the Trumwyn Pedigrees, "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. I., p. 340 (Table).

Other families who have marked in the early annals of the borough as well as of the barony are connected with Forbridge. Amongst which are entitled to a conspicuous place the earliest tenants *in capite* of the King's Pool, *i.e.*, Wymar, Stafford, and perhaps Rugeley, as also in respect of residence and property there those of Chetwynd and Drakeford; although I have not been able to fix the precise spots. The Green Hall from its position and adjacent grounds is likely to have been occupied by such personages, and as we know that it once belonged to Richard Drakeford, we may without improbability suppose it also to occupy a site once

Wymar's. The Stafford rentals mark some of the inhabitants of Forbridge at early dates. (Appendix P.) The Subsidy Rolls mark others. *Supra*, pp. 24, 25 ; see also others, *infra*, pp. 49, 50.

The Houghs also appear at an early date also as estates in Forebridge ; there appear to have been two of them.

"About half way between the Green and the Penk," says Mr. Loxdale, are the Houghs, called so long ago, but some have said first recorded in an inquisition *p.m.* of the reign of Edward III., where they are spoken of as part of the lands whereof Ralph de Stafford died seised." [L.] But I add that previously by fine passed in the 27th year of Edward I. (1299), John de Wenlok demanded one virgate of land and five acres of meadows in "Le Halugh" by Stafford, from Richard son of Henry Wymer de Motton and Isolda his wife, who remised them to John de Wenlok on receiving from him £20. They will be found alluded to in the Rental of Edward Lord Stafford in the Appendix, as tenanted in the seventeenth century by Robert Talbot, who had the nearer Hough, and . . . Dorrington, who had the further Hough, and he held with it the Spittle Meadow. At a later period, *i.e.*, on the 24th July, 1775, the Aldermen and Common Council ordered that Mr. Dickenson should have a lease for twenty-one years of all those lands, barns, and premises, with all the appurtenances at the Hough, late held by Mrs. Godwin, and leased, etc. ; then rented at £5, but worth, in 1759, £30.

In the early part of the reign of Henry III., Ralph de Marisco is defendant in a suit in which Adam de Stafford is plaintiff, and in another Robert de Marisco sues Ralph Wymer about a fishpond in Forbridge. Not only the Marsh but those who held it as tenants seem to have been of some importance, for the great cartulary of the Staffords now at Bithfield often refers to them ; I follow its form at p. 271 in the following abstracts :—

COM. STAFFORDE (MARSHE).

9 E. II., at
Stafford
(under seal). Tho. de Pipe grants to Henry de Marisco and Margery his wife and heirs all the lands and tenements in Le Mershe near Stafforde which the said Thomas held of the feoffment of the said Henry, with the reversion of all lands and tenements in the possession of tenants for life, to hold of the Lords of the Fee. Witnesses, Ernano de Chetwynd, Jo. de Pikstoke, Will de Cauvreswale, John le Foxe, Rich. Seafrey, and others.

9 E. II., at
Stafford
(sealed). Thomas de Pipe constitutes Robert de Pipe his attorney to put Henry de Marisco and Margery his wife in full possession and seisin of his lands in the Mershe near Stafford, which Henry and Margery had enfeoffed Thomas with.

24 E. III.
(sealed),
apud le
Mershe. John son of Henry del Mershe near Stafford releases to Lord Ralph, Barn. of Stafford, etc., all his right of claim, omnibus terris et tenementis, pratis, moris et pasturis cum pertinentibus in le Mershe juxta Stafford.
Warranty.

Witnesses, Lord Rich. de Holton and Thomas de Hauilaughton, Knights, Rob. de Knyghtley, Will. de Wollesley, Robert le Bonde, and others.

22 E. III.
(sealed). A tous ceux, etc., Richard de Stafforde, Chivaler, Salutz en Dieu (this French instrument refers to an exchange made by him with Raufe Baron de Stafforde, Lord of Tunbrugge, and his lady companion Margaret of his, the said Richard's, estate, etc. (*inter alia*), in le Marshe near Stafforde in the county of Stafford, for other estates of Baron Stafford in the co. of Gloucester.)

4 H. IV., at
Stafford. Edmond Earl of Stafford grants to Garston de Stafforde and Isabella his wife a messuage with appurtenances in Stafforde, which formerly belonged to Nicholas Beck Knight, between the tenement of Simon Goldsmith on one side, and a tenement of John Lichfield on the other side; also grants to the aforesaid John a pasture called the Mershe, with appurtenances, near Stafford, et Robam de Secte Armigerorum Nostrorum annually for the term of his life. *Warranty, &c.*

Witnesses, Robert Mauvesin, Thomas de Aston, Knight, Jo. de Willaston (Wollaston), Jo. de Aston, John . . . Hugo Stanford, and others.

SILKMORE.

We find by the Close Rolls 14 H. III., *m.* 8, that Nicholas le Urs (the bear) was sued by Alice, relict of Hugh de Dokesye, concerning the custody of land once the said Hugh's in Silkemor, Gretwood, and Cattel (? Castel); and by the Close Roll of the same year, *m.* 3, in *dorso*, dated Nantes, 18th September, it appears that Nicholas called to warranty Harvey de Stafford, at the time in the King's service beyond seas. All that appears is that the affair was owing to his absence in respite. In 1255, Hugh de Dokesay granted two crofts in Selkemer to Walter, Master of St. Lazarus

of Retford (Radford). ("Staffordshire Collections," Vol. IV., part I., pp. 246-7.) Thomas de Halughton has free warren in Dokesay, Silkmore, and Gretwood in 9 Edward III. by Royal Charter (*m.* 55). By final concord, 31 E. I., 1303, Richard de Dokeseye and Margaret his wife took by the grant of Robert de Halughton the Manor of Dokeseye and four score and three acres of land, twenty-six acres of meadow, two of wood, and eight acres of underwood in *Selkemor*, Gretwode, Bradelegh, and Welaston (Wollaston); the said Richard to hold of the said Robert, rendering a rose yearly, and performing for him to the lords of the fee the services appertaining thereto; but if Richard and his wife died without heirs the premises were to revert to the said Robert.

In 7 R. II. the Convent of St. Thomas the Martyr near Stafford had the King's licence to purchase twenty-seven messuages and tenements, etc., in Ambrichton, Lee, Newton, Coton Walton, *Selkmore*, Salt, and Haniate, with sundry burgages in the towns of Stafford and Lichfield, and divers lands and tenements in Stafford and Marston, part of the Manor of Marston which had been transferred from the alien Priory of Lapley to the Priory of Shene. (Salt MS. 40, p. 222.) The following notices illustrate this subject: In 1773, were for sale amongst other things the following, Silkmore Farm, a farmhouse, etc., with seventy-four acres of arable pasture and meadow land contiguous; also part of Stych fields and barn, with fifteen and a half acres, and a meadow of three acres called Stockings, and other parts of thirteen and four acres respectively; also an acre and a half near Rickerscoat, being a dole in a meadow called Copnall meadow. Silkmore was stated to be a manor, with a sole and separate right of fishery in a backwater running from the River Penk.

In 1855 were for sale an acre three rods and twelve perches called the Daisybank, on the Lichfield Road, then in occupation of Mr. Nathan Smith.

In 1859 were for sale a capital messuage on the Green, formerly occupied by J. H. Halton, Esq., with a garden from Green Walk to Friars' Walk, and a messuage in occupation of Mr. Edmund Whalley, also nine cottages adjoining, in occupation of Mr. R. Mountford.

RICKERSCOTE.

Rickerscote is the Ricardescote of Domesday Book, where it is added to the berewicks of Bradeley, and is said to be held of Robert

de Stafford by another Robert for half a knight's fee; there was land for four ploughs, one in demesne, with three villeins and three boors, with one carrucate and two acres of meadow. It had belonged to Earl Edwin, and was valued at 20s. (See also "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. II., p. 180.) Later, Roger Vigil had given, and Harvey de Stafford (1217-37) had confirmed to the Convent of Stone a piece of land in Rickardscote called Wumrichscroft, with half the meadow called Fulsich (*ibid.*, p. 275). It appears also from the Register of Kenilworth (Dugdale's "Warwickshire," p. 157), that half a yard of land in Ricardescote was given to the Priory of Kenilworth by Richard de Bereford and his wife Cecily, the daughter of Roger le Waite, as also by Ralph de St. Edmund. Roger appears to have had a brother Simon, who held a croft in the seemingly adjoining township of Berton (Burton), for by a fine (1197) the tenant Simon de Burton acknowledged the croft and thirty acres and a virgate of land in Berton to be the land of Roger le Waite. (See Vol. IV., "Staffordshire Historical Collections," pp. 260-1.)

The Vigils or Waites continued for some time in Staffordshire. (See the "Historical Collections for the County," *supra*; also Vol. III., pp. 32-3; Vol. IV., pp. 260-1.) They held (we have seen) half a knight's fee at Rickerscote, and from entries in the volumes last mentioned also land at a place written Berton, which might be clearly taken for Burton next to Rickerscote, but that there were Burtons in Warwickshire, one of which is not unlikely to be the place in question, as it belonged also to the fief of the Staffords. (Dugdale's "Warwickshire," p. 450 *b*.)

It appears from the Inspeximus of R. Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, and the confirmation by Pope Celestinus (whether Celestinus III. (1191-8) or IV. (1241-3) of the name does not appear), that Reginald Gawle had bestowed upon the Fraternity of St. Thomas' Priory near Stafford a meadow in Ricardescote, called the Brocage. (See the Inspeximus cited by Walter Chetwynd in his "Pirehill Hundred;" a transcript is in the Salt MS. 40, p. 215.) As the dissolution of the Monasteries and the subsequent dealings with them diverted many ecclesiastical lands from the normal succession, and as family settlements of the Staffords had diverted others of the mesne estates, the difficulty of tracing these parcels of their manor is increased. However, we find in the great Duke Humfrey's inquisition *p.m.*, 38 and 39 H. VI., that the half fee of Ricardescote was held from him by Humfrey Stafford,

and this is confirmed by the latter's inquisition *p.m.* in the first year of E. IV. This Stafford was of the line of Hooke. No wonder then that in Edward the last Duke's escheat, *infra*, there is no entry of the fee of Rickerscote, but on the 5th October, 36 H. VIII., by inquisition *p.m.* of Richard Harcourt, Esq., the said Richard Harcourt was found to have held at Billington, Burton, Dunston and Ricardescote, four messuages, three hundred acres of land, and one hundred acres of pasture, ten acres of wood, and 15*d.* rent, with the appurtenances; also at Billington and Dunston, a messuage and land, with the appurtenances, from the Lord Stafford (Henry, restored Baron, son of the attainted Duke), by fealty and a rent of 3*s.* 11*d.*, also at Ricardescote a messuage, land, and tenements, with the appurtenances, from Thomas Salt, by fealty only, worth 10*s.*, also at Burton a messuage, land, and tenement, with the appurtenances, from Richard Palmer, by fealty only, worth 16*s.* What had occurred with the fee in the interval I have not been able to ascertain.

In the Great Cartulary at Blithfield, at pp. 12 and 112 respectively, are the two following abstracts, of which at least one contains an inaccuracy; no witnesses' names are subscribed. But they are nevertheless apparently documents which illustrate the Erdeswick claim to Stafford property in Cuddleston and Totmanslow Hundred, and bear upon the subject of the conflicting rights of different branches of the family of Stafford of Bramshall (*supra*, pp. 35, 36). [Y.] Following the form of that Cartulary, I extract as follows:—

31 E. III., Thomas de Erdeswick releases to Hugh and Henry
sealed deed. de Dorley all his "jus" or claim in the manor of Ricerscote, etc., which John de Stafford "hade" of the gift of feoffment of William de Stafford, Knight, his Lord, which descended to the said Humfrey (*sic*), in Crakemarsch, Strongeshul.¹ (*Transcript of a sealed copy.*)

P. 12, Thomas Erdeswicke releases, etc., for himself and
15 E. III., at heirs for ever to John Wade, Parson of the Church
Stafford. of Lyche? and Henry de Dorley all his right and claim to the manor of Ricerscote, rents, etc., and which John de Stafford had of the gift or feoffment of William de Stafford,

¹ The Huntbach MS. (Salt Collection) has also "Humfrey," without distinguishing him. He was probably Humfrey called "with the silver hand." Both extracts evidently came from the same original.

Knight, his Lord, and which descended to the said Humfrey (*sic*) in Crakemershe, Bylinton, Ricardescote, Dunston, Dulverne, and Fosbroke, excepting the service of Petre of Caverswell Park.

What follows here from the Patent Rolls and the Great Cartulary shows more of the early inhabitants of the vicinity, and has been referred to *supra* at p. 44.

William de Levedale sued the Prior of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist and others by a writ of novel disseisin touching tenements in Stafford. The same William sued Hawisia widow of William Raulet touching tenements in Forbrugg. These two suits were of the same year, 17 E. III. (1343-4). See patent of the same year, *m.* 16, *dorso*.

From the Blithfield Cartulary again we have, at p. 131, the two following charters, of which one by its date, "apud castrum Stafford," reminds us of the early charter said by Erdeswick to be in his own then possession. The form again of the entry is as follows:—

COM. STAFFORDIE, FFORBRIDGE, 233.

32 E. I., dated "apud castrum Stafford."	Edmund de Stafford and Margareta uxor, grant to William de ffrodswall for his life a certain place called the Grene in fforbridge near Stafford, lying between the high road from Stafford to Retford, in breadth 100 feet, in length extending from the land of Robert Morys and the land of John le Marshall of Stafford, 200 feet towards the land and the grange once Randle . . . innos de fforesta (<i>sic</i>).
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7 E. II., at ffore- bridge.	William son of Robert Petronell de Castro Stafford grants to his son Nicholas f . . . manentes in fforbridge juxta Stafford.
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In the adjoining parish of Acton Trussell is a monument in the Church, of date long subsequent, with a Latin inscription, to the memory of "Richard Nevil of Ricerscoat, gentleman," claiming for him the merit of patriotism and attachment to the Church of England at a time when dissensions were rife. It mentions his having married Eleanor, youngest daughter of Richard Drakeford of Forebridge, gentleman, by whom he had no issue, and that he was born 1st March, 1647, and died on the 1st January, 1728.

ROWLEY.

The place name Rowley, or its phonetic equivalent, may be said also to be one that has led topographical writers into difficulty ; for not only does Staffordshire possess the Royal Manor of Rowley Regis, but its parishes of Haughton and Bradeley have their Rule or Reule (written by Erdeswick as Rowley), and Stafford itself has its more closely neighbouring manor of Rowley, once belonging to the Stamfords, and in part also to the Austin Friars of the foundation of the Earls Stafford, which ancient site from the seventeenth century has formed part of the estate of the Free Grammar School of Stafford. [L.]

The older etymologists assign to the word Rowley the meaning of the "Regal Sepulchre," which seems an eccentric confusion of sources not likely to pass muster at the present day, and not to have historical support. No doubt the final syllable has often been confounded with "Low." [E.] Be this here, however, as it may, as to this place itself it is possible it may have been the subject of dispute in an assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Richard de Roulowe against Peter the Prior of St. John's near Stafford and Henry le Fevre, concerning tenements in Roulowe. (Vol. II., p. 73, of "Abstracts of Patent Rolls" in the Salt Library of the 5 E. I., m. 9, *in dorso*. See also *ibidem*, p. 79). Again by a final concord of the 34th year of Edward I., Roger Fraunces and Margery his wife had by grant from Stephen fitz Nicholas de Sondon and Edith his wife, one messuage, one toft, twenty acres and half a virgate of land in Salt and Rugelowe by Stafford (Rowley ?), which belonged to the said Edith, to hold of Stephen and his wife Edith, rendering a rose yearly, and performing to the chief lord of the fee for them, the said Stephen and Edith, the services appertaining to the fee ; but if the said Roger died without issue by the said Margery, then the fee was to revert to the grantors. Later is found a possible dealing with the same manor on the part of King James I., who, 10th November, 1610, granted to Sir Thomas Leigh of Stoneleigh his reversion in Rowley Park, with all its messuages, lands, etc., as part of the £120 per annum granted to the Earl of Bedford, 10th February, 1609. ("Calendars of State Papers," Dom. Series, *ad annum*, p. 642.) So in the same volume at p. 404, it was previously said that the benefit of the recusancy of John Berington of Rowley was granted with that of J. Wells of Hoarcross and Eleanor Emsworth of Abbot's

Bromley to William Hunt and Henry Hean. Who Berington was see "Erdeswick," by Harwood, p. 175 and note there.

Degge says, Edward son of Sir Robert Stamford sold Rowley to Sir Richard Berrington, who married Edward's sister, and was father of John Berrington, who owned it in 1665; *apud* "Erdeswick," by Harwood, in note at p. 448; and see "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. V., p. 260.

Mr. Harwood strangely mistakes (p. 175) Erdeswick, who did not, as Mr. Harwood has done, confound the Rowley to which he referred with any other place of similar name, but had in his mind and his text only the hamlet (variously written as Rowelee, Reule, Rule) which is in the extreme westerly part of the parish of Bradeley, not far from Haughton, and is by no means the Rowley near Stafford. The latter had really, as the commentator truly says, belonged to a religious house in Stafford, and William Stanford, Esq., and after him Sir Robert Stanford became its owners, and the latter's son Edward sold it to Richard Berrington, who married his daughter, and had issue John, who enjoyed it in 1660. The inquisitions referring to the Stanfords have been given above. From the inquisition held on the death of Richard Berrington, who died on the 16th February, 9th of James I., it appears that the succession of John his son consisted of the Manor of Rowley juxta Stafford, one messuage, sixty-six acres of land, forty-three of meadow, sixty-four of pasture, ten of wood, and 60s. rent and the site of the Monastery of the Austin Friars, with great tithes of hay, calves, lambs, pigs, and wool, etc., as tenant *in capite* of the fortieth part of a knight's fee.

In the "Royal Composition Papers," 2nd Series, Vol. XLIII., p. 74, on the 11th June, 1649, we find the following as to the Stafford possessions: "The Marquis of Dorchester and the Earl of Kingston petitioned the Commissioners of Composition for leave to be admitted to a reasonable composition for two parts of certain estates purchased by them from the Right Hon. William Lord Viscount Stafford. It was stated to consist of:—

The Manor of fforbridge with the appurtenances and all other the lands, mylls, and tythes of the said Lord Viscount Stafford situate and being in Castle Church and Bradeley, and in the borough of Stafford or elsewhere in the said county of Stafford, two parts whereof remayne under sequestration for the recusancy only of the said Lord Viscount Stafford.

The estate and its value are particularized as follows:—

Imprimis ye Mannor of fforbridge with ye demesnes in the parish of Castle Church and St. Nicholas, were of the yearly value	£	s.	d.
before <i>these</i> times of	250	0	0
All the residue of the lands, tenements, tythes, mylls, and hereditaments in Bradeley and the borough of Stafford, and elsewhere in the co. of Stafford	160	0	0
The two third parts to be compounded for amount to.	273	6	8

It must be observed, however, upon this subject, that afterwards on the 18th May, 1653, Captain Peter Backhouse petitioned for a re-sequestration of the above on the grounds of Lord Dorchester's delay in making good his statements, and that he, Backhouse, as a discoverer of a concealment, had entitled himself to a surplus, A.D. 1657. The details appear in the "Salt Abstracts of Royal Compositions," Vol. VI., p. 295. The Stafford Manors of Thornbury and Oldbury, co. Gloucester, had been also taken for recusancy only, and the property dealt with (*ibid.*, at p. 115). The trustees and Lady Stafford bitterly complain of the injury done to the latter manors by waste, cutting of timber for improper purposes, and neglect to enforce manorial right. The Commissioners for the Commonwealth seem to have deemed it necessary to explain that without express word the lessees had no right to interfere with the manors, castles, gardens, orchards, or royalties. I have met with no corresponding statement as to waste of the estate at Stafford.

Abstracts of the above are also in the transcript of the Staffordshire "Royal Composition Papers" in the William Salt Library, Vol. VI., p. 457.

THE FEUDAL BARONS OF THE FIRST RACE.

M. Prevost in a note to an edition of Ordericus Vitalis' "Ecclesiastical History," to which M. Guizot gave the sanction of his name (Book V., c. 9), informs us that Hugh, forty-first Bishop of Rouen (A.D. 942–989), a prelate of illustrious birth (he was in fact nearly related to Rollo), gave an estate called Toëni (it had been an episcopal domain) to his brother Ralph, who thus became

founder of the family of Toëni and Conches in Normandy, and that (afterwards called) of Stafford in England.

In Normandy the Toneis were mixed up with the turbulent events that characterise the annals of its dukes. One of these chiefs, Roger de Tonei, senior, as well as his son Ralph, are spoken of as hereditary standard bearers of Normandy; both had distinguished themselves in Spain; the father had even been styled "d'Espagne" in consequence. (Orderic, *ubi supra*, note of M. Prevost.) Ralph was so conspicuous a political character, that even his physician Goisbert finds frequent mention in the narrative, wherein the Anglo-Norman historian informs us that Ralph had taken him with him to England, and through him had granted to the Monks of St. Evroult in Normandy two estates in England, one named Caldecot in Norfolk, and the other Alvington in Worcestershire. Indeed historian and physician became eventually both monks in that abbey. Ralph was elder brother to Robert de Tonëi, afterwards called of Stafford. Such is the conclusion of Mr. Eyton ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. II., pp. 254-5). Ralph was evidently the brother the more distinctly marked in the page of history, where in England he appears as owner of Flamstead and Clifford Castles, and occupies a more important place in continental chronicles, where family alliances connected him with the great houses of Fitz-Osborne, of Montfort, of Evreux, of Mellent, and of Boulogne; the marriage too of his daughter Godchilde to Baldwin son of Count Eustace led to a throne, and seems the first link that connected the family with the Crusades, and may have been the cause, although Robert de Tonei's previous attachment to Duke Robert may have been another, that in carrying Robert de Stafford to the East led to the extinction of the first race of males.

The value of Orderic's testimony depends upon his means of information, as well as upon his honesty as an historian; it is for this reason that I have mentioned Ralph's physician, Goisbert, afterwards long resident with the historian as fellow monk within the same monastery. For thus it seems impossible that the Anglo-Norman historian who was collecting details, should not have made himself well informed as to Norman doings in England, and especially as to those of the de Toneis.

Robert, whom the Domesday Commissioners called "de Stafford," and who himself or his immediate successors on receiving from his Sovereign and Relative numerous fees in and near Stafford and

elsewhere, adopted it as their family name, was thus a younger son of a great Norman house.¹

According to Ordericus 4th book, ch. 1, after the submission of the great English earls, King William made a progress through his kingdom, establishing military arrangements for the maintenance of public order. He gave the custody of castles to some of his bravest Normans, distributing among them vast possessions as inducements to undergo cheerfully their defence. The English had very few fortresses which the Normans would have termed castles, but the King carefully surveying, we are told, the parts least accessible, selected suitable spots to be fortified against his restless foes. One castle he built at Warwick, another at Nottingham, and after the downfall of the Mercian Earls another at Stafford, which had been destroyed by the insurgents previously to Domesday Book, for it mentions the fact. This castle, it would seem, the King had entrusted to Robert Tonei, who thereupon, according to Dugdale, assumed the territorial name. About the same time, after having dispersed the insurgents at Stafford and further west, the King also erected castles at Chester and Shrewsbury.

Robert de Stadford held nothing in the county that had not belonged to Earl Edwin, but he did not hold all that did so; neither, although his holding in the borough of Stafford was very considerable, did he hold all the Earl's holding there.

Of forty-four mansures in Stadford which we find in the great census belonging to the honor of the Earl, only thirteen were given to Robert; the King retained twenty-two himself (of the latter five were then waste), and the King also gave five pertaining to Worfield, and four pertaining to Penn to Hugh de Montgomery and to William fitz Ansculf respectively.

But by these donations the King-Duke did not exhaust all at his disposal. In the borough was much not comital, let alone the portion which remained, as in Saxon times, the property of the Church; of these, fourteen mansures devolved upon the See of Chester, five upon the Abbey of Burton, fourteen went to the priests of the borough of Stafford, of which thirteen must have gone to the Prebendaries of the Royal Collegiate Church; then the King had besides eighteen burgages and eight mansures which the

¹ Loxdale cites Sandford, p. 445, for the fact that Robert had been Steward of the Household to King Edward the Confessor. (Loxdale MS. in Salt Library, F. 28.) Does he not confuse him with Ralph Earl Steward to E. III.?

Book of Domesday tells us remained unoccupied (*vastas*). [D. B., p. 246.]

But although thus of the comital manors, Robert de Stafford had hardly more than a third, he had in his share within the borough, what was styled "of his own fee," forty-one mansures, nearly as many as all those of the comital estate put together. Whatever may be the relation in which Robert thus stood in power to the other tenants *in capite* in Staffordshire, and whatever may have been the relative extent or value of Robert de Stafford's estates elsewhere, in the neighbourhood of Stafford itself they were without rival. Not only were his fees divided from that town on the south only by the River Sow, but they extended, with the exception of the break occasioned by the King's Pool, on its other side, so as to completely encircle the burgh from Tillington on the west, to presumably a member of the Bishop of Lichfield's manor of Haywood on the east, where a part, afterwards the site of St. Thomas the Martyr's Priory, appeared a century later to have been relinquished by a Gerard de Stafford (thought, probably erroneously, by some to have been of the baronial family, and co-founder with Bishop Peché of the said Priory).

But the proprietorship of the Staffords in this centre was not limited to that extensive and almost perfect circumference; in the town itself Domesday Book marks Robert as holder of the aforesaid thirteen mansures, and on the south and west sides, even the strips of meadow land that intervened between the walls and town gates were soon afterwards found in the possession of the family, and claimed as belonging to their Manor of Stafford. Nor was this all, for although the Domesday Commissioners at first doubted it, a half of the King's share in the borough ferm seems to have become the Staffords' by Royal grant. [P. 246: *medietatem partis propriæ Regis habet Robertus dono Regis ut dicit*. A later entry is positive upon the subject; p. 248, verso: *in burgo de Statford habet Robertus lxx. sol. de medietate partis Regis*.]

In another passage of the Staffordshire census, at fo. 249, Robert is found at Bramshall a close neighbour of the King; the same Robert, it tells us, holds in Bramshall (Bramselle) one virgate of land of which one moiety is the King's as the way halves it (*ut via eam dividit*).

It seems impossible not to admit the sagacious conclusion of a distinguished antiquary, that the King expressly withheld from Robert everything that might savour of earldom. But be that as it

may, and whatever the cause, perhaps a distrust or jealousy of the recipient, or promises of abstention, or promises of annexation to other earldoms, the fact nevertheless remained that no temporal lord in the county was, in respect at least of territory, so great a lord as the lord thus in one particular slighted; sixty or sixty-one are the number of knights' fees he had to answer for, and in the Elenchus or list of tenants *in capite* he stands immediately after Henry de Ferrers, himself then not an Earl,¹ it is true, but the holder of still more considerable estates in Derbyshire, and of one between the Ribble and Mersey, etc.

Allied by blood with the Conqueror, richly endowed with local estates, and greeted emphatically by those who surrounded him as "Stafford," no wonder he at once accepted the designation which soon after, in ordinary parlance, implied the territorial dominion, and what wonder if a representative of the family fifty or sixty years later, less familiar with facts, called the Church his, the burgh his, the castle his;² what wonder if he committed the anachronism of inferring that the name imported it in the eleventh century; or even what wonder if, after the third Duke's escheat, a restored lord should make the singular pretension that his family itself had given name to the borough! [I.]

Dugdale thought the first Robert was Sheriff of Staffordshire. A Nicholas is too described as Sheriff [L.],³ and we know from the Pipe Rolls that the son of Nicholas, a second Robert, was Sheriff of Staffordshire too. After the destruction of the first royal castle of Stafford, *temp.* William the Conqueror, no special nominee is recorded except during the rebellion of Robert de Belesme, when the Baron of Wem (Pantulf) is in charge. So that in all the other time of unrecorded custody, the Staffords, if Sheriffs, would be in possession of the King's castle. It soon, however, after the commencement of the existing continued series of Pipe Rolls, ceased to have any warlike significance, but dwindled, as we have seen, down, as was the case with other royal castles, to a mere gaol,⁴ by which name it came to be known, although the more feudal name never

¹ An Earl "de Ferrariis" appears the first time in the Pipe Rolls 6 H. II.

² "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. II., pp. 210, 211, and Mr. Eyton's remarks, p. 213; and yet after all I think the equivocal arises from different things being called by the same name; *supra*, p. 10.

³ "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. V., Part I., p. 12, line 4; and see Pipe Roll, 81 H. I., p. 82, for Northamptonshire, *ed.* Hunter; but see Eyton's "Staffordshire Domesday," p. 79.

⁴ As to which see the Assizes of Clarendon, ch. X.

entirely died out, so that in a patent of the reign of King VIII. the Stafford one is therein, as before said, by the King called alternatively, "my Gaol or Castle of Stafford." [I.]

What wonder if this race of sheriffs, who derived their name from Stafford, and held the Manor of Stafford, came, as I said, to regard themselves at one time as lords of its borough, and lords of its intramural castle. We may suppose that this again was by reason of some royal hint or royal promise, or we may go further and pronounce it to be the suggestion of ambition growing out of a family tradition. When the neighbouring County Palatine of Shrewsbury was no longer there, and the succession to the throne contested, then might a Chief de Stafford speak in bolder terms of his "burgh and his Castle of Stafford." ["Collections," Vol. II., pp. 210, 211.]

Not that it is intended positively to say that the Staffords had not at an earlier period their baronial residence especially their own; Erdeswick saw a deed of early date dated from Castre near Stafford; and see another deed so dated at p. 50 *supra*.

It is not unlikely, and indeed highly probable, they would have had a stronghold, whether castle or not, popularly so called, although it may, with the others spoken of in Henry II.'s treaty with Stephen, have been destroyed; and it is not likely that such a stronghold, as long as the Staffords were in custody of the King's castle, would have been much cared for; it would have even been neglected, characterising, nevertheless, the manor in which it stood as the Manor of Castre, although the Baron is only spoken of as holding its members as of a "chief or principal messuage." (Inquisition *p.m.* E. I.) Some important records too specify the Church of St. Mary in the castle as belonging to St. Mary's Stafford before the Conquest, and others speak of a chapel or church of St. Nicholas in the "castre" as founded time out of mind; and one of the same dedication undoubtedly was afterwards in the baronial castle, and has been even commemorated so lately as in an inquisition *p.m.* of the reign of James I. [*supra*, p. 23.] But this matter has already been alluded to.

So far with respect to two so termed castles, King's and Baron's, which existed in that neighbourhood. They have created difficulties in the minds of careful antiquaries. One has left this question of the castles and churches of Stafford as a problem to future investigators. My subject has led me to try to solve the question.

In the great census we have seen that the scion of a Norman

house is styled Robert de Stadford by the King's Commissioners themselves. But the town or borough must have belonged to the Saxon Kings, and was then William's. Why did the King's Commissioners, and why did Robert Tonei, we may say, by adopting it, take this liberty with a town not his own but the King's?

The attribution of the name struck Dugdale as singular, and as demanding explanation; for alluding to the numerous estates and lordships assigned to this lord in various counties by the general survey, he noted that Stafford was not in the list, and the reason why, "because the castle which King William the Conqueror had caused to be built in that part of Stafford, then a member of Chebsey, and belonging to Henry de Ferrier (*sic*), was at that time demolished." Of which castle, when it stood, it is like this Robert, he continues, was governor, and therefore took that surname from his residence thereat, for that his name was originally Tonei is clear enough. [E.] Therefore according to that great genealogist, residence as governor in the King's castle of Stafford was the reason of the surname. This may have been so; but if so, we are entitled to ask, if Robert Tonei thus took his name from his residence as governor, how came it that contemporaneously another took the same name of whom there is no recorded residence there? How came it that Nigel de Stadford, whom Dugdale supposes Robert's brother, has assigned to him the same name in the Derbyshire Domesday? If this Nigel had been Robert de Stadford's son the theory would hold good, but that unproved, we must seek the explanation elsewhere? It is to be looked for in what we may style the historical certainties which accompany the whole career of the great feudal house, supplemented by the reasonable inferences, deducible not only from its origin in Normandy, its appearance in England, and its large participation in the spoil of the Conquest, but from the policy of kings, and their probable promises, and from the temptations and ambition of the feudal lords themselves. Let us consider them as they were in Normandy, and then what they afterwards became in England. How better judge of the extent or the grounds of their aspirations?

Several very authentic lists remain to us of the associates of William in the conquest of England; there is a detailed one and a brief one. The former is written in the pages of the great survey, which was a fatal doom or knell to nearly all the great previous English landholders. The other list is furnished by the Anglo-Norman historian Orderic, and in fact comprises two very brief

enumerations of those adventurous Norman warriors: the one of those foremost in rank in their own country, the other of those who were foremost in the battle of Senlac. In all three lists the name of Tonei is conspicuous. In this list of Orderic's of the chief families in Normandy appear Richard Count d'Evereux, son of the Archbishop Robert, Count Robert, son of William Viscount d'Eu, Robert Earl of Moreton, uterine brother of Duke William, (*Ralph*) *de Conches*, son of Roger Tonei, *Standard Bearer of Normandy*, William fitz Osberne, the Duke's cousin, and High Steward of Normandy, William de Warrene, and Hugh Boteler, Hugh de Grant Mesnil, and Roger de Mowbray, Roger de Beaumont, and Roger de Montgomery, Baldwin and Richard, sons of Count Gislebert. Almost all these, remarks the latest French editor of Orderic, were relatives of the Duke of Normandy, although not all expressly so described by the historian, but by him pronounced to be all foremost of the Norman nobles. The other list of those foremost in the battle, gives in addition to Eustace Count de Boulogne, William son of Richard, Count d'Evreux, Geoffrey son of Robert Count de Montagne, William fitz Osborne, Robert son of Robert de Beaumont, a novice in arms, Aimer Viscount de Thouars, Earl Hugh de Montford the Constable, Walter Giffard, and Ralph Count de Longueville, the same *Ralph de Tonei* (*Lord of Tonei and Conches, Standard Bearer of Normandy*). Roger de Montgomery appears in the first list and not in the second, for he had been left behind as Governor of Normandy, according to the better opinion; but he afterwards accompanied the King at the close of the year, on his sudden recall from Normandy by intelligence of a formidable insurrection of the English. [F.]

The name of Tonei then appears in both of those lists, but it is the head of the family, the hereditary standard bearer Ralph, ancestor of the Cliffords of Clifford Castle, first held by this Ralph, and not the progenitor of the Stafford Robert, nor his presumed near relative styled in Domesday Book Nigel de Stafford, who is mentioned in them. We cannot affirm of the two latter that they were present at Senlac. But as their shares of the escheats that followed the great Mercian uprising were very considerable, it seems certain they must have been with the King-Duke when he so severely suppressed the Staffordshire insurgents as narrated by Orderic the historian. Although it cannot be affirmed of either that he was at the great battle, the then head of their family Ralph de Tonei certainly was there, as before mentioned. This Ralph

bore a territorial surname conspicuous in the annals of the restless feudal lords of Normandy and of its ecclesiastical history, as that of the son of the founder of the Abbey of Conches, and benefactor of that of St. Evroult. The Conqueror's Charter of Confirmation to the Abbey of St. Evroult has fourteen witnesses, two are the King's sons Robert and William, the others are his Earls, etc., of higher rank. Ralph de Conches stands third after Roger of Shrewsbury and Hugh of Chester. (See Ordericus Vitalis, B. VI., c. 5.) Becoming Lord of Flamstead co. Herts, he retained his prior Norman name. The name is spelt in early documents Tony, de Toneio, Thony, Todení, and Thotenei; but under those names it is the family of Conches which is perhaps always referred to, although nothing but a seeming identity of designation connects with it the powerful race whose original English seat was Belvoir Castle.

Anyhow, enough remains to show that the Staffords belonged to a great Norman family which had other powerful relatives settled in castles in England; a family too having justifiable pretensions to Royal favour and rank, of which a castellated residence was at the time, by the experience of its uses and the Royal example and encouragement, the almost invariable accompaniment.

But although in Robert de Stafford such pretensions might be reasonable in themselves, local circumstances might render them difficult or unlikely of realization. That would mainly depend upon his personal qualities and those of his probable rivals. For the prize at stake might in fact be the Earldom of Staffordshire, and what the earldom then might mean may be gathered from what Milo de Gloucester received from the Empress Matilda with the Earldom of Hereford.¹ His personal qualities, such, that is, as the King would require from his supporters in a disturbed and dangerous province of recent acquisition, we may take for granted. But the veteran experience and strategic quality necessary to the commandant, he or his successor Nicholas may not have possessed, and the one or the other may have shown his shortcoming in respect of the first destroyed Royal Castle of Stafford.

Robert de Stadford had at an early date his chief residence in or close to Stafford; his estates there encompassed the town on all

¹ Rymer's "Foedera," Vol. I., p. 14.

sides except that occupied on the east by the King's vivary. But those estates were themselves contiguous to estates in the hands of more powerful earls and barons, those especially of Chester, and Montgomery, father and son.

Notwithstanding Stafford's goodly share, which was greater in the county than theirs, it is not unlikely that as a warrior or a politician he was eclipsed by the superior qualities of those Counts Palatine; or again their jealous rivalry, or the King's distrust, may have induced the Conqueror or his son to hold out as a future possibility for Stafford the rank of earl, and yet still to withhold it from him.

Mr. Eyton's sagacity pointed to this explanation of the curious entries in Domesday Book as to the anomalous position of Robert de Stadford, who although holding so many manors in the county, and sharing in the King's one-third from the ferm of the Borough of Stafford, was not girded with the sword of the earl, or entitled by Royal Patent, as far as we know, to represent the county as its chief noble. The forfeiture of the family of Montgomery in the reign of Henry I., only served to let in other competitors, but still although several Shrievalties of Stafford (and we have seen that Dugdale suggested that the first Robert had also been Sheriff) may have served further to aggrandize them, the void left by the Montgomeries was in the following reign rather filled up by others, notably the Earls of Chester, than by the Staffords. There are indeed paragraphs in the Pipe Rolls of a little later date leading us to conclude that the King, retaining in his own hands this earldom, evinced no disposition to part with his Royal demesnes or Comital authority in the county; for he had a King's Chapel and vivary, and a fortress in Stafford, besides his burgesses there and his manses; he had too his Royal forest only a mile or two away, and houses, and a dairy farm at Cannock. This appears to have been the case in the early part of the reign of Henry II., and probably it was so earlier, for even in the previous century, Domesday tells us that Edward the Confessor had thirteen prebendal Canons, that is, a Royal Collegiate Church in Stafford. And now the Norman Duke wore Edward's crown! It may be said why should a great King as Henry was, desire a seat in these parts remote from Normandy and Anjou and his other possessions? The answer is this: down to the final subjugation of the Welsh, this side of England was ever of high consequence in a military point of view, was frequently visited by our sovereigns, and

traversed by their armies as well as by those who rebelled against their authority. I may add there is proof of all the early Kings having visited Staffordshire except perhaps William II. With respect to the Conqueror he may have thought it good policy to retain Staffordshire, not only as a secondary line of defence against the Welsh, but as his own boundary against the powerful earls to whom he had accorded a Palatinate and independent sovereignty in Cheshire and Shropshire.

What the position was that Robert de Statford and his first successor held in the contest for power with the powerful feudal lords near him needs elucidation, and the evidence to make it out is far from conclusive; but the Sherifdom was perhaps, it has been said, its basis. At that early period the high office which then conferred the chief authority, military as well as civil, was granted sometimes in other counties to successive members of the same family. In the absence of other special appointment to a Royal castle, it is apprehended that the Sheriff would *ex officio* have its custody, and the first baron may thus have taken his name de Stafford not as a territorial one at first, but as a description, which, the castle effaced, would cease to be applicable, especially when, as we know was the case, the King appointed a different castellan to the Royal castle which he rebuilt at Stafford, *i.e.*, William Pantulf. For I am not aware that in the eleventh century or in the twelfth, or even later, the Latin preposition "de" prefixed to a local name necessarily was more than one of various modes of distinguishing a man in respect of connection with some place. Robert Tonei may then have been styled Robert de Stadford for the same reason as Turchil his Saxon contemporary was called Turchil de Warwick (as to which see Dugdale's "Warwickshire," first edition, p. 302), namely, from residence there or holding the castle for that King's Earl as vice-comes, or as representing the King in the respective towns, in neither of which counties had any earl been made, the King retaining the earldom in his own hands in both. But to return to the subject of the Sherifdom, I remark that although the third of the feudal Lords de Stafford had no lord of his name de Stafford successor in the Sherifdom, the same high office was held by one of his foremost liege Knights, Hervey de Stretton, for eighteen years successively (13 H. II.—30 H. II.).

This interval passed, it is not easy to avoid suspecting that this branch of the Toneis having fallen to the distaff, it had somewhat

declined in power and influence, although fated to rise again higher ; and the incessant wars with France which soon ensued terminating (*temp.* John) in the separation of France from Normandy, would so react upon the principal branch as not only to detract from its importance, but disparage for a time the junior branch at Stafford.

The last baron of the first Stafford race was also a crusader ; the preparation for this distant and adventurous expedition encumbered the estates of many of his coëvals, and may have embarrassed him. So that we may finally suppose that the close of the twelfth century did not find the different branches of this originally foremost family with a position relatively improved ; but their hopes and aspirations remained the same, and long before this they had at least got rid of formidable competitors in the case of a neighbouring family, to be presently mentioned.

It was a sad foreshadowing of what England had to expect and endure from these warriors, to know that before they were launched upon this country, and even during the minority of their Duke, their families had been continually engaged in cruel feuds amongst themselves ; "thus," says Ordericus, "the Normans took off by poison Alan Count of Brittany, their own Duke's guardian, and defeated his successor Count Gislebert in a bloody battle, the two nations massacring each other incredibly in almost daily encounters. Likewise Turketil de Neufmarche, and *Robert de Toneri*, and Osbern, Steward of Normandy, and William and Hugh the two sons of Roger de Montgomery, and Robert de Beaumont, *Walkelin de Ferrers*, and Hugh de Montfort, and many other powerful warriors, made war on each other by turn, causing great confusion and distress in the country, which was then deprived of its natural protectors, *i.e.*, by the nonage of William." [B.V., ch. 9.] So that one main motive of the Conqueror in his invasion of England may have at first been to employ his turbulent barons : history repeating itself ; something of the same kind took place when Archbishop Chicheley counselled Henry V. to amuse his subjects in foreign wars.

THE NEIGHBOURING FEUDAL CHIEFS.

FERRERS, FITZ ANSCULF, ROGER DE MONTGOMERY AND HIS SON
HUGH, WILLIAM PANTULF, AND THE EARLS OF CHESTER.

All these chiefs were not only great in power and influence in Staffordshire, but by all but one of them holding mansures in the burgh of Stafford itself were likely, if disposed, to be formidable rivals and enemies of Robert de Stafford. Ferrers (Mr. Planché restored the orthography Ferrier) owned one manure in the burgh, described in Domesday as then "vastam." He had held also the site of the first Royal castle there, and this in right of his Manor of Chebsey, but at the date of the Domesday compilation it was in ruins; perhaps both wasted manure and ruinous site are descriptions of one interest. The lordship of this part of his property, whatever the property was, would accompany under ordinary circumstances the descent of the Manor of Chebsey; and that of Chebsey, although topographers are generally silent upon the subject, can be traced from Ferrers to the Royal House of Lancaster, and found to be treated as a member of the Honor of Tutbury. It had become such no doubt as a consequence of the Ferrers' forfeiture *temp.* H. III.

But somehow or other, that part of the fee in the Ferrers' estate in the borough of Stafford is no more spoken of as belonging to Ferrers. It had been severed, no doubt, and become the King's, and was the site of more than a single Royal castle; Domesday Book says upon it, "Rex præcepit fieri castellum quod modo est destructum;" the phrase and context imply that the King had taken the land for himself. On the other hand, Ferrers had his own castle at Tutbury, and a burgh around it, as I understand the description in the Census. The Conqueror sometimes altered such territorial arrangements. We shall presently see an instance of his doing so in the case of William fitz Ansculph (p. 67).

The Castle of Tutbury had been, it appears, in the hands of Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester;¹ when the census was compiled it

¹ Several estates, part of the fief of Earl Roger de Montgomery, appear in Domesday Book as in tenure of a "William." The estates are Cresswall, Dodington (Derrington), Modreshal, Almenton, Anstonfield, Celteton, and Basford. All but the first of these are mentioned as occupied by William simply; but on the first occurrence of the name at Cresswall, Pantulf is written above the name of place, so that Cresswall was in William Pantulf's tenure. It would seem possible that William

was in the hands of Henry de Ferrers, another instance of a change of territorial arrangement. But Lupus was abundantly compensated by receiving the Palatinate. Walkelin father of Henry de Ferrers, and Roger de Toney father of Robert de Stafford had both fallen in the feuds of the great Norman Barons which preceded the majority of William. Ordericus is again our authority, who adds that the liberality of the Conqueror had caused some of those who attached themselves to his fortunes to have "vassals richer and more powerful than their own fathers had been in Normandy" (Ordericus Vitalis, B. IV., c. 7). Henry de Ferrers appears in Domesday Book to have been endowed with fast upon two hundred manors in different counties, but the greater number in Derbyshire, with a promise of an earldom to come. Erdeswick and Ordericus both say that he obtained the earldom at the hands of King Stephen; which, although Mr. Eyton questions it, seems not unlikely, if regard be had to the power of the Ferrers who had joined Stephen, and the lavish generosity of the King, not as in many other similar reasons confirmed by the politic Henry II.; so that in effect no member of the Ferrers family may be said to have really obtained the substantial earldom of Derby until William Peverill was out of the way, and Ferrers had been girded with the sword of the earldom by King John. But be it with this particular honor as it may, many circumstances tend to show that the first feudal lord was favoured by his Sovereign; the estates show it which he received at his hands, as does also the trust reposed in him in his appointment with Bishop Wolstan and

Pantulf was also intended for the tenant in all those other places. Eminent Domesday scholars have, however, understood, perhaps rightly, not William Pantulf but William Malbanc, one of the Earl of Chester's barons, as the William intended. In understanding it so, however, they have followed the thought rather than the assertion of the author of the "Antiquities of Staffordshire." (See Harwood's edition, pp. 457 and 481.) There was no doubt both an acquisition by and a transfer of Staffordshire estates from early Earls of Chester; as to which see "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. I., p. 231, and Vol. III., p. 224, but the precise date of the different transactions and their nature are not very clear, neither do we quite see how the Earl of Chester's Baron William Malbanc is made to be the "William" a tenant of fiefs of Roger de Montgomery. (See remarks of Mr. S. P. Wolverton in a note to Harwood's Erdeswick, p. 470.) This matter is only an additional evidence of the unsettled ownership of the manors, and the delicate and dangerous relations of the great earls. They answered, however, the purpose and policy of the Conqueror. When their *imperium in imperio* ceased to have a reason in times of early conquest, one sovereign, Henry I., destroyed the County-Palatine constitution of Shropshire by force of arms, and another sovereign, Henry III., annexed that of Chester to his own family by an extraordinary exercise of arbitrary authority.

Bishop Remige, the Earl Walter Giffard, and Adam brother of Eudo the King's Dapifer, as Commissioners for carrying out the work of the great Survey. Henry de Ferrers must then have been a man of ability. The very circumstance detailed that the King had built his castle in Stafford upon Ferrers' land, in my opinion shows equally, with the King's sharing his ferm of Stafford with Robert de Stafford, that he felt he could place more confident reliance upon each of these than upon the more powerful and more jealous nobles, whose might he sought to profit by rather in the field perhaps than in the council.

Of William fitz Ansculf much need not be said. He is described in the Survey as holding considerable estates, most of them in other counties. In Worcestershire he had his castle at Dudley, of Surrey he is said to have been Sheriff (*Vicecomes*). In Staffordshire he is described as holding amongst many manors, those of Penn and of Mollesley, which had belonged, the former to Earl Algar, and the latter to the Countess Godiva. Fitz Ansculf is said to hold also as pertaining to Penn four comital mansures in the burgh of Stafford. His sphere of action seems to have been rather outside Staffordshire, and his office of Sheriff to mark him as rather of a class less dangerous to Robert de Stafford than the fierce spirits that were in the foremost ranks of the conquering host. In Domesday Book, Vol. I., in Buckinghamshire, fol. 148b., he is said to have exchanged his Manor of Esenberge with Ralph Talgebosch for half of Risenberga, by command of King William.

With respect to William Pantulf there is certainly clear evidence of his standing in direct competition with Robert de Stafford's son Nicholas, for King Henry I. prefers the former to the keepership of his restored castle in Stafford. But Pantulf seems to have united to remarkable ability a spirit of moderation. He had numerous interests elsewhere, in Salop and in Normandy, of which much has been said before (*supra*, p. 21 and 22). His life had been an eventful one, and was perhaps near its close. He appears in Domesday as a tenant under Roger de Montgomery both in Shropshire and Staffordshire; but William Pantulf had great possessions in Normandy, where he founded the Abbey of Norum in 1074, and amply endowed it, giving all his personal estate to be divided between the Monks of Norum and those of St. Evroult, Roger de Montgomery confirming both grants. Pantulf held several lordships in Salop under the Montgomeries, one being Wem. Afterwards suspected wrongfully of having participated in the

murder of his lord's first wife Mabel, he purged himself by the ordeal of fire, but Mabel's son Roger de Belesme, with whom he had fruitlessly sought a reconciliation, having rebelled against Henry I., found in his former liegeman one of his most redoubtable enemies. The King appreciated the military experience of the veteran knight, and appointed him to be governor of Stafford Castle. His descendants were benefactors of Stone Abbey. (See Chetwynd's MS., "Pirehill Hundred." See also Dugdale's "Baronage," Vol. I., p. 434, and Ordericus Vitalis, B. XI., ch. iii.)

It appears to me that the real risk of Robert de Stafford was not from that apparently loyal knight, still less after the latter's ill-treatment by Belesme, but from a different quarter. The two had, it is probable, both of them, Belesme as an enemy.

The close dependence of Orderic's family upon the first Norman Earl of Shropshire does not prevent the historian from speaking at least of one of the Earl's evil deeds. "At this period," he says (and he seems to refer to a time not long before the Conquest) "grave dissensions arose between William of Normandy and his barons. For one ambitious man eagerly endeavoured to supplant another, so that bitter quarrels sprung up from various causes, to the great injury of the wretched people. . . . Among those who regarded these disputes with satisfaction were Roger de Montgomery and Mabel his wife, who took the opportunity of gaining the Duke's favour by fair professions, while they exasperated him against their neighbours by their crafty manœuvres. The Duke, naturally passionate, gave the reins to his wrath more than justice required, disinheriting the distinguished Knights Rodolph de Tonei, Hugh de Grant Mesnil, and Arnold d'Echaufour, with their barons, and compelling them to endure a long exile" (it lasted three years), "without any real cause of offence." Similar conduct on the Earl's part towards de Tonei's relative Robert, whom William's Commissioners had called de Stafford, may have shaken William's first intentions in the latter's favour, and induced him to give the Earl to him for a near territorial neighbour, and to make the Earl's son Hugh also a Staffordshire tenant *in capite*, and expectant participator also in future favours. And it is pertinent here to remark that this house of Montgomery was ambitious and able and grasping, and that four sons of Roger first Earl of Shrewsbury became, it is said, earls themselves; two certainly were so, and the other two, viz., Roger and Arnulph, became also virtually earls. Orderic goes so far as to say they were actually earls, one of Lan-

caster, the other of Pembroke; more truly perhaps we may designate at least one of them like Stafford, as a Castellan Earl expectant.

The brothers Hugh and Robert de Montgomery had at their fathers' death his English and Norman earldoms, Hugh the English one, and Robert de Belesme the Norman; by Hugh's death Belesme had both. Noteworthy also is the place long before assigned to this future Earl, Hugh son of Earl Roger, in the Domesday List of Staffordshire tenants *in capite*; he and Henry de Ferrers are both made to precede Robert de Stafford. How imposing besides was the position of the two Earls of Shropshire and Chester appears from an incidental passage of Orderic, in which he calls them Earls of Mercia (Lib. X., ch. 6). That each may have thought that his Earldom had no definite and fixed boundary, or that that boundary had not been reached, is very possible, and we find this corroborated by the sequel, for the younger son of Earl Roger, Roger Pictavensis, obtained a great part of Lancaster from the Conqueror; and when he had forfeited it, it was the Earl of Chester who became his successor there; and an Earl of Chester might afterwards, had the second Henry kept his promise, have united the Earldom of Stafford with that of Cheshire. [Compare the remarks upon the treaty of Devizes made by Mr. Eyton, "Stafford Collections," Vol. II., p. 224.] It is possible that those two Palatine Earls of Chester and Salop were originally encouraged to believe that all of the Earldom of Mercia conquered by their means would be shared between them; and so they might come to regard any but themselves who were looking forward to be endowed with any part of that great escheat as interlopers. Roger de Montgomery is called also by Ordericus in one place [Lib. VIII., c. 2] Earl of Mercia. After his death his son Hugh de Montgomery and Hugh d'Avranches (Lupus) are called by the same writer [B. X., ch. 6] "the two Earls who have the chief authority in Mercia, and who both bore the name Hugh." The Saga of King Magnus afterwards called them "Hugo the brave and Hugo the big" (Le Gros). It tells us that the former, that is the Earl of Shrewsbury, fell by the hand of King Magnus. And Hugh Lupus, then in the decline, died not long after, that was in 1094. But in 1086, at the date of the great census, one was in the plenitude of his force, and the other still vigorous; as also was Roger de Montgomery, who has there assigned to him, besides estates in close contact with Robert de Stafford's, numerous mansures within the walls of the borough, of which three are said to be adjacent to the "hall," but

none of these are called comital mansures; whereas, as I have said, of that class (comital) Hugh de Montgomery held as pertaining to his manor of Worfield five, fitz Ansculf held in respect of Penn four, and Robert de Stafford thirteen in respect of Bradeley; the remaining twenty-two being retained by the King, altogether forty-four comital mansures in the borough itself. With such chiefs for neighbours Robert's position needed consideration and support. Perhaps the King desired their strength to be balanced. But Robert would naturally wish himself stronger. He would wish for additional support; whence? It seems to me he might look for it from the Earl Palatine of Chester. I am inclined to think one would be justified in saying that he actually looked for it there, and found it there; for Dugdale in his "Warwickshire" (1st ed., p. 772) makes Nicholas the son of the first Robert de Stafford the husband of Maud daughter of the Earl of Chester; she had however been the wife previously of the Earl of Hereford; for this important link Dugdale cites the respectable authority of Rous, Herald to King Richard III. The event belongs to a period when evidence is scanty; but at least as to the name Maud, Geva Riddel, another daughter of the Earl of Chester, had herself a daughter Maud, and the pedigree of the Staffords so long suspended in Stone Abbey assigns a wife of the name of Maud to Nicholas de Stafford; and that he had a wife so named is certain, for he writes her as Matilda in a Charter printed in Vol. II. of these "Collections," p. 195. This Matilda would be daughter, legitimate or not I cannot say, of Hugh called Lupus d'Avranches, the son of Richard, named Goz (red). Hugh's wife was Ermentrude, daughter of Hugh de Clermont. Orderic describes him as cruel to his brother-in-law, as fierce, liberal, and prodigal, of as boundless rapacity as generosity, as keeping an army on foot, as prone to lust, as rather a patron of the chase than of agriculture or religion. Hugh had left by Ermentrude at his death (1101) but one son (*child*, Orderic says), Richard, who perished with his wife Matilda, niece of Henry I., in the wreck of the "Blanche Nef" (1119). [Orderic, B. X., ch. viii.] Lupus had stood for William Rufus in his war with the French King. [*ib.* ch. 5.] This character of Hugh given to us by the Anglo-Norman Historian contrasts remarkably with the favourable one he gives of Roger of Montgomery; but the historian's birth, parentage and profession of monk would lead him to extol and enhance the merit of the Earl who was at once the Lord of Orderic's father, protector of his servant Ordelirius, and the founder of St. Evroult of which the Historian was a professed monk.

THE BARONIAL CASTLE AND ITS FREE CHAPEL.

A pleasing object meets the eye of the traveller as he approaches Stafford. He beholds upon a neighbouring eminence to its west what, uninformed and at the distance, a mile, he may regard as the eastern façade of a perfect feudal castle. He is deceived, the castle is far from entire, it is recent, and has probably nothing of its predecessor but its foundation.

Stafford town itself, we have seen (*supra*, p. 9), had at the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign a mimic representation of a supposed Saxon castle "fortified with reel walls." It stood near where the mill now is and near the new bridge, that is, it looked out directly to the Baronial Castle of Stafford-upon-the-Hill to the west. All that has disappeared.

At the present day this Baronial Castle has itself also its mimic representation with real walls on the hill, due to the initiative of Sir Henry Jerningham about seventy years ago. Nothing I know of preserves the memory of the prior state of the structure except an unpublished plate from a drawing by Mr. Stebbing Shaw made nearly at the beginning of the century. This showed nothing standing but the south wall, which the drawing presents edgewise to the observer; but the nude dome-like mass of the mound is there too, as also are the south side of the Castle Church and its cemetery, with a palisade separating it from what was not a road like the Newport Road, which is there now, but a mere bridle way apparently. Its ruinous condition was due to the Parliamentarians in the seventeenth century. What did the ruined wall represent? What did the Jerningham structure mimic?

The reply is in neither case dubious; the wall was the remaining portion of a castle erected by Ralph Baron, afterwards first Earl of Stafford, which it seems at one time Sir Henry Jerningham designed to restore completely. (See Mr. Nightingale's remarks (1813) as to the ruins and partial restoration; also Mr. Clifford's in his "Tixall," in the Appendix.) [E.]

I have spoken of a supposed castle of still greater antiquity than Baron Ralph's, and I have referred to *post-mortem* inquiries (p. 18, *supra*) of different Barons as suggestive of at least inferences as to its existence; this seems the place to consider those inquiries more particularly.

An inquisition taken on the death of Henry de Audeleye,

4 E. I., *m.* 50, having occasion to speak of the defunct's interest in Horton, tells us that Henry held two parts of Horton of the Barony of Stafford; and an inquisition on the death of John de Chetewynde similarly alludes to his having held of Robert de Staundon, Weston in Standon, the latter holding it of the Baron of Stafford. (*Inq. p.m.* 9 E. I., *m.* 6.) But in neither case is there any allusion to any tenure as of a castle or to any castle at all.

A *post-mortem* inquisition of the eighteenth year of Edward I. (1289-90) is the first in which matter of importance in this respect touching the head of the Barony of Stafford appears upon the records. It is as we before said in the form of an extent. A writ to the escheator had ordered an extent to be made of the manor of Stafford, then in the King's hands because of the minority of the son and heir of Nicholas Baron of Stafford, who had held of the King *in capite*, and which manor the King had committed to the custody of William de Gerlande. What took place under the writ is described as an extent of the manor in question; but I have observed the singularity that it is not by the name of the manor, as the writ had termed it, of Stafford, but by the name by which it seems to have been popularly known in the neighbourhood, the name of the Manor of Castre (Castle), that the extent was executed. Now when we know that the manor itself of Stafford is still within the parish of Castle Church, and that neither this parish nor manor had ever had any "mouvance" or dependence upon the King's Castle in the borough, it is evident that it would only be to another Castre Castle to which the return could allude; and what could that be but the Castre of the Stafford without the King's borough?

By patent 22 Ed. III., Part I., *m.* 37, the King granted to Ralph Baron license to "fortify and crenellate his 'manses' of Stafford and Madlee (Madeley) with a wall of stone and lime and make castles thereof."

Previous to this the escheats show by their silence that the Staffords had no crenellated or castellated residence in the county.

If then, as is probable, they had any castle previously, it must at an earlier date have been demolished with the numerous similar fortresses in consequence of the final treaty between the Kings Stephen and Henry II. After that date no castle could be erected without the express permission of the King, and the license to crenellate granted to Ralph Baron Stafford, afterwards Earl, is the first upon record.

The silence of the previous escheats upon the subject of a Baronial Castle at Stafford is so important to show its non-existence, that it is desirable the reader should see the terms bearing upon this point as they are used in the escheat of Edmund Baron Stafford, which escheat is of the second year of Edward II. (m. 63), A.D. 1308-9, and compare them with those of the escheat of this Baron's son Ralph, a remarkable noble, who was invested Earl of Stafford by girding of the sword and of the King's special grace by the name of Earl of the same place.

After stripping the record of matter irrelevant to the description of the Stafford chief lieu, the reader will find the most remarkable difference between the two accounts. The jurors upon Edmund's escheat found that the manors of Stafford, Bradeley, and Madeley were held of the King *in capite* by barony, viz., by the service of "finding for the Lord the King during forty days, at the tenant's own cost, three men armed and three horses caparisoned whenever they shall be required for his wars in Wales and Scotland." No castle is spoken of in any of the three manors, nor indeed at all. The manor of Stafford is described as follows:—

"In the manor of Stafford there is a *chief messuage*,¹ with gardens and curtilages, worth yearly 3s.; and there are there three carucates of arable land containing twelve score acres of land, worth yearly £4, price of the acre 4d.; and there are there three acres of meadow, worth 4s. 5d., each acre worth 1s. 6d.; and there is a certain park, the profit of which is worth yearly 6s. 8d.; and there is a certain fishery there worth yearly 2s.; and there is there of rent of assize of free tenants £10; and the pleas and perquisites of the court there are worth yearly 40d.

Now it is unnecessary to cite instances, they are numerous, where place-names and manor-names have retained as *Castre*, *Chesterton*, *Chester*, *Bur*, traces indubitable of non-existent castles, *castra*, or *burhs*. But such words do not occur in the earlier Stafford inquisitions. On the contrary, Stafford inquests omit, except as I have said, corresponding words, until for the first time

¹ The Subsidy List (*supra* p. 24) shows in the 6th year of Edward III., the chief inhabitant of "*Castre with the Marsh*" to have been Thomas de Pipe. No doubt it was this knight who had married Margaret de Basset, relict (2 E. III.) of Edmund Baron Stafford. I think that Pipe and Margaret resided in the chief messuage in the manor, for the name Stafford is not mentioned in the Subsidy List. See *infra*.

they are introduced on the death of Ralph the first Earl of Stafford (see Escheat 46 E. III., *m.* 62), and we find the Staffordshire property of the deceased nobleman described for the first time as the Castle and manor of Stafford and manor of Bradeley with its members, viz., Bertherton (Burton), Bilinton, Wollaston, Shardecote (Shredicote), Longnere, Stretton, Dunston, Hide, Copinhale, Tillington, Castell, Forbryge, Stafford, and Butterhill; as also of the manor of Madelie with the hamlet of Norton, the manors of Berlaston (Barlaston), Gretton in the Mores, and Dodintone (Derrington), with the hamlets of Rudewode, Hertewal, Tilnesover, and Stalbroke. Nor was his castle at Stafford his only castle, he had also that of Caus through the Corbets, and of Tunbridge through the Audleys and Clares. The license to fortify extended to Madeley, but the permission, judging from the inquiries, was acted upon only as to Stafford manor; and no wonder, for the Staffords soon became by Royal alliance entitled to several other castles of greater importance.

What then of the other castle, not the King's, but really of the Staffords, on the nearest hill but a mile away?

According to the ancient usages of France, and it would seem of the earliest Normans in England, a great vassal of the Crown had the right to build a castle, ever understanding by the term a stronghold, having a *basse cour* or baily with fosses, a drawbridge, a square tower or keep, and a hand mill in the interior; he had the right also to invest his own vassals, and these theirs, with the same privilege.¹ This led in both countries not only to oppression of the lower classes, but to a weakening of the Royal authority. The formidable part played by castles in the war between Henry and Stephen is best proved by the dismantling of many hundreds of these fortresses in England, and by the law which for the future rendered the King's consent necessary to their erection.

That these feudal barons about the time of their first settlement would contemplate at the earliest favourable opportunity the exercise of their feudal right, and did actually imitate the example set them by their own relatives, and even by chiefs of less rank and fewer manors, may be reasonably supposed; but as in the interval that followed the treaty of Devizes down to about the middle of the fourteenth century no conclusive record countenances the existence of any castle near Stafford in a subject's hands, it may well be supposed that the Staffords' Castle, though begun, had

¹ See "Répertoire Universel et raisonné de Jurisprudence," Titre Château.

never been completed, or had been demolished with the rest, and that their chief messuage in the same manor, as it is described in the first Stafford Inquisition *post mortem* (18 E. I.), had served as their caput Baronie down to the time when Ralph de Stafford who had espoused an Audley, coheiress of a coheiress of de Clare, and which Ralph had distinguished himself by his share in the French war, at last crowned his family's aspiration by obtaining from his Sovereign not only the Royal license to crenellate or fortify his two Manor Houses of Stafford and Madeley, but the long-coveted title of Earl.

In the inquisitions *p. m.*, the Staffords have been described as holding their Staffordshire lands variously as of the Manor of Stafford, or as of their chief messuage, or as of the Manor of Castre, or as of the Manor of the Castle of Stafford. Somewhat strangely indeed the Lords' Committee in their third Report, A.D. 1829, upon the Dignity of a Peer, pp. 183-5, spoke of the baronial castle as existent, *i.e.*, in 1290; and even went so far as to suggest that probably the chief mansion had been made a castle without licence during the civil wars of the previous reign.¹ The Report proceeds to say: "The capital messuage in the Manor of Stafford was, however, probably the "caput Baronie of the Barons of Stafford, as a capital messuage, though not a legitimate castle appears to have been the caput Baronie of other Baronies." It cannot be here meant that such chief house was in Stafford; the suggestion would be in opposition to received principle, and would be improbable and unnecessary, for the inquisition leaves it certain that the chief messuage was situate in the parish and manor of the Castle, where presumably an original castle of the Staffords had stood or been commenced prior to the treaty of Devizes in 1164 as before said.

The feuds of the Baron led to the enormous number of 1,100 being constructed in this country, one of which might reasonably be supposed to be erected by the chief feudal landholder in the county, who held sixty knights' fees therein alone; and the more so, that it is unnecessary to suppose it as more than a stronghold, the nucleus of a future normal structure as yet of only hastily col-

¹ And yet their view derives countenance from what was done elsewhere in the country, for in 46 H. III., 1261, Roger de Somery began to make a castle of his manor house at Dudley, but was not suffered to complete it without a special licence from the King. Afterwards this Lord adhering to the King in the Barons' war was permitted to build a castle on the site of his manor house. Also it may be noted that the mason's contract for building the castle *temp.* Edward III., now at Blithfield, bears a date slightly anterior to the King's licence to fortify.

lected material, intended chiefly to prevent surprise. In fact, as long as the King had himself a Castle at Stafford, occasionally used, it is supposed by him, with a King's pool for fishery near at hand, it was not probable that within a mile or so a baronial castle would spring up without Royal command or public utility, either for defence or control, and called by the same name of Stafford Castle. No; the King's Castle must have ceased to be used as a fortress before the Baron's could have authoritatively assumed its name. It is not unreasonable to infer that this Manor of Stafford, so popularly called Manor of Castre, would not have been called so from the King's Castle within the town, but from a castle of the manor itself without the town, and in fact from a castle upon the very elevation afterwards that upon which stood the Castle of the Earls and Dukes successors of the Barons Stafford. Again, the nearest manor to the King's Castle, afterwards Gaol, of Stafford, would have been Tillington, also a manor of the Staffords', and if mere vicinity led to a manor being called Castle Manor, Tillington Manor would have seemed entitled to the preference.

That the Manor of Stafford or Castre, nearly from the Conquest down to the wholesale demolition of castles by the convention between the two Princes who succeeded to Henry I. had had at some time its own castle, appears from other considerations.

Staffordshire, not far from the Welsh frontier, always at that time peculiarly perilous, suggested to the feudal lords the policy of placing their military resources behind defensive works, so that of the 1,100 castles said to have been constructed throughout England, the peculiar position of Staffordshire would seem to claim for it a far greater number than the ten of which Leland speaks to the existence in his own time, and the greatness of the Baron de Stafford would vindicate for him a castle for his *caput Baroniae*.

"When we say," writes Maddox, naïvely, "a man holdeth of a castle or tower, it is to be understood that we use those terms for brevity's sake. For properly a tenant or feudatory cannot hold of a tower or any inanimate thing. For in all holding there is lord and tenant. A castle or tower cannot be a lord, nor can a tenant do homage to a tower and say, I become your man, etc. So that when we say a man holdeth of a tower or castle, it is meant as of such tower or castle (then being in the King's seisin), or that he holdeth of such a baron, in whose seisin or whole baronial seat such tower or castle is. In like manner, if we say that a man holdeth of the Crown, it is a common and well-known metonymy

signifying that he holdeth of the King for the time being, or of the King in perpetual succession."

The King's Castle when used as a fortress must, as has been said, have been of importance from the strength of its garrison; not so perhaps the Barons'. If these feudal lords believed the Earldom likely to be eventually theirs, they would have instances to make them also believe, for Milo of Gloucester's Earldom is one, that the Royal Castle would be granted to them also; such belief would explain why no baronial castle was immediately built by them near Stafford until the internecine wars maintained by Barons against Barons, and often against the Crown, until Edward I. mounted the throne. ("Rymer Fœdera," p. 14, *supra*.)

The repeated attainders to which Staffords were subjected during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries must always suggest the name to any one who discusses or writes upon the subject of the Baronia Anglicana. Accordingly, Mr. Maddox reminding us that a city or town could not be the head of a Barony, and that when a part of the Barony it was only part of the demesne, that it consisted only in "dominico" and not in "servitio," and if there were a castle there (of the Baron) it and not the town was the head of the Barony; and afterwards instancing first the case of Richmond in Yorkshire, where the town was part of the demesne of the Manor of Richmond, but the castle was the caput Honoris, Maddox proceeds to cite the words of Mr. Justice Rokeby, in Lady Gerard's case (Mod. Rep., part 5, p. 66). The words are as follows: "When a Barony was *anciently* granted, there was a Castle with a territory also granted. Suppose there be a Barony of Stafford, and all the houses in the town of Stafford belonged before to the new Baron, which house shall be called caput. Baronie? "A city or town therefore might be, and often was, a part of an Honor or Barony. But then it was not a capital, but an inferior part of such Barony. It is evident the constables, knights, and sergeants which were in castles, as well as those belonging to the King as those belonging to the Barons, did use in former ages to exercise a great superiority over the towns which were near them, and likewise the adjacent country. No wonder men who were covered with steel should domineer over burgesses and peasantry; the armed over the unarmed."

Such seems to be the legitimate conclusion of a writer of authority, who attributes the obscurities of the subject to the confusion arising from confounding titular honors and land honors.

But every castle contained a manor, according to Sir Edward Coke (2 Inst., 31); therefore the word *castre* might well stand for both. It is noticeable that the able lawyer who prepared the petition (A.D. 1807) of Sir William Jerningham, of Cossey, in the county of Norfolk, Baronet, claiming to be Baron of Stafford, had carefully measured his phraseology, expressly formulating the proposition thus: that Robert de Stafford, meaning the last of the Staffords of the de Tonei branch, was seised of the manor or baronial estate of Stafford, "of which the Manor of Stafford and Castle of Stafford, now in the possession of the petitioner, were, or one of them was, the head," and died so seised, leaving his sister, Milliscent de Stafford, his heir. [B.]

Now the petition has been generally assigned to the authorship of the well-known learned lawyer, Mr. Hargrave, who advised the claimant throughout. In spite of his careful words, "the honor or baronial estate of Stafford, of which the Manor of Stafford and Castle of Stafford, now in the possession of the petitioner, *were, or one of them was*, the head," that is, *was*, or might have existed in the time of the third Robert de Stafford (he died after a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, A.D. 1176; see Dugdale's "Baronage," p. 156); in spite, I say, of such careful language, one is entitled to say that no document at the disposal of the petitioner who then had the estate disproved the fact of the existence of a castle in the twelfth century. Although in records the expression frequently occurs that such and such a tenant *in capite* held his land *per baroniam*, as of a castle, as of an honor, or as of a capital messuage, by a specified service; and although these words may, in the case of one or two land baronies, have a wider signification, yet the general proposition will, upon examination, be found reducible in common cases to very simple elements, and to signify no more than that the tenure was one by feudal service, and its subject such as was sufficiently pointed out by indicating some central spot, to which subject three things were essential, Seignury, Service, and Demesne." (Madox, *ubi supra*.)¹

The Castellum of the Barons of the first race in every sense used here must convey the idea of some castle, although it was never finished, or like the King's it may have been destroyed; but when in the reign of Henry III. a jury found by their verdict that a Church of St. Mary's existed in the Castellum before the Conquest, our assent to this proposition need not accord more than that the

¹ Third Report on the Dignity of a Peer, Vol. II., p. 182, A.D. 1829.

Church existed before the Conquest in the Manor afterwards called "Castellum." And in this sense I apprehend we may, but are not bound to understand that case. And the same remarks apply to a similar description of another Chapel, the Free Chapel of St. Nicholas, of which it is said that it had existed time out of mind within the "Castellum." Erdeswick, who had access to so many charters, had also one himself which was dated at the Castellum *juxta* Stafford. And we shall find that the Mason's contract with the then Lord Stafford is also so dated. Is not the conclusion justified that one or more of the first three Stafford Barons had had a something popularly called a castle in their Manor, which Manor at least has always been regarded as containing the caput of their Barony? Not that I would contend that a castle existed there when the Extent was taken (18 E. I.). I cannot do so when I read the contents of this Extent of the Manor of Castre. But that the Staffords have regarded their Baronial Castle as having stood on the hill near Stafford in the twelfth century is evident from the Jerningham petition. If at any time between the treaty of Devizes and the building of Earl Ralph's castle a fortress stood on the same site, it may have sprung up and been immediately destroyed in the lawless time that preceded the firm rule of Edward I. And if a site has once been occupied by such a structure, although afterwards in ruins, the term "the Castle" will remain an abbreviated appellation for a castle in ruins, and remain in the mouths of the tenants, who had formed the *corvée* for its erection, and the people at large, as bearing testimony to what has been, long after even the ruins have disappeared; and so it is that philologists have associated, and in the majority of instances probably in strict appropriateness, with many more local names the ancient existence of Roman camps or feudal castles.

The middle of the fourteenth century was an unhappy time in the midland counties for lovers of peace. A petition to Parliament in the year 1343 records the misadventures that occurred to the valuable merchandize of some Lichfield merchants and their persons whilst journeying from that city to Stafford, at the hand of well known Knights, who despoiled them and divided the booty in the alien Priory at Lapley, at a time when it was not in the charge of its religious men, owing to the war with France, and aggravating their offence by outrageous and forcible entry into a barn belonging to the nunnery of Blythbury.¹

¹ Arch. J., No. 13.

The times were lawless, the King at war on the Continent, and the offenders powerful. On one occasion the rank of the then chief of the Manor of Stafford, his position with the King, his military retainers, and the contiguity of the King's borough, did not secure the Baron's park and deer at the short distance of a mile or two from depredations.

At last the Baron saw the prudence, in times when crime and violence were so rampant in Staffordshire, of giving to his principal park and estate in the county the security that a neighbouring fortress would afford. The moment was favourable, he was in the prime of life, he had succeeded to a share of a Corbet inheritance in Shropshire, and to a share of the Gloucestershire estates of the De Clares and Audleys; he was a gallant and approved comrade in arms of his King, with a great future in the vista. In the year 1346-7, on the 6th of July, William de Shareshull, John de Stafford, John de Lee, and William de Perton, had been appointed to hear and determine the complaint of the Baron (Ralph), whom the King had heretofore taken with his men, lands, things, rents, and all his possessions under his especial protection and defence, prohibiting any person whatever from doing any damage or grievance to them in their persons or property, then the said Ralph affirmed that notwithstanding this Royal protection, Thomas Prior of the Church of St. Thomas the Martyr near Stafford, and Brother John de Ruggeleye, brother monk of the said Prior; John son of Adam de Ruggeleye, and Henry brother of the same John, Richard son of William Jurdan of Hilderston, Thomas son of Adam de Ruggeleye, John de Barndhurst, John Unewyne, and Nicholas de Ruggeleye, and certain other malefactors and disturbers of the King's peace, whilst the same Ralph was thus under the King's protection, forcibly *broke into the park of the same Ralph at Stafford, and hunted in the same without his licence, and took and carried away the deer*, and committed other enormities to the grievous damage of Ralph, and against the King's protection aforesaid and against the King's peace. (Patent Roll, 20 E. III., A.D. 1346-7, Part 2, m. 14, *in dorso*.) The date of this outrage was so little in advance of the building by Ralph of his Castle near Stafford, that we are justified in connecting them as motive the one of the other. Within six months after the entry into Stafford Park, *i.e.*, on the 6th day of February, A.D. 1348-9,¹ the King granted for himself and heirs to Ralph Baron of Stafford licence to fortify and crenellate his "manses" of Stafford and

¹ Patent Roll 22 E. III., 1348-9, Part I., m. 37.

Madlee with a wall of stone and lime, and to make castles thereof, and hold those "manses" so fortified and crenellated and made into castles to himself and his heirs for ever.

On the day of St. Hillary, in the twenty-first year of the reign of King Edward III. (*a day which corresponds with the 13th January 1348*), by indenture made between Ralph Baron Stafford of the one part and Messer John Bercestre, Mason, of the other part, it was witnessed that the mason was to build for the said Baron a castle (un chastelle) upon the mound (moële) in the manoir of breadth, and length and height with "koms, sales, chambres, *chapele*, cheminees, garderobes, viz. (outlooks), fenestres, huis¹ (doors), and gates all to correspond in plan and color. The said Mons. Ralph wills that the should be twelve feet higher than the hall and chambers, and that the top (crowning) of their wall should be seven royal feet Then *after some details difficult to decypher*, Mons. Ralph (*that is the Baron*) is to get carried and placed along the mound the stone, sand, and lime. He is also to find by his seneschal the necessary scaffolding, ladders, sieves (claies), and "hobettes" (? hods), as well as the requisite strong ropes and vessels. And the said master (mason) is to carry the said stone, sand, and all other necessary things thereto pertaining, from the foot of the mound up along the summit and the sides, etc.

The document concludes thus: "In testimony of which things the parties aforesaid have interchangeably set their seals; and to certify the seal of Mons. Ralph there are also affixed near it the seals of Messrs. William de Colton and of John Pickstoke.

"Written at the Chastel of Stafford the day of St. Hillary, in the twenty-first year of the reign of King Edward the third after the Conquest."

Mr. Hamper the antiquary of Birmingham, through whose hand the document had passed, has added a note, for which see the Appendix. [U.]

A comparison of the dates of the Royal license to Ralph Earl of Stafford to crenellate, and of this his contract with the master mason to erect a castle in the manoir of Stafford, shows that the contract had preceded the license by twenty-three days; so he felt sure of the King's consent, or had obtained it. The state of this great Earl had a year or two previously (see the Patents and Fines

¹ Hence the old French legal term, "huis clos," closed door; and hence also French *huissier*, whence comes our *usher*.

referred to in Dugdale's "Baronage," Vol. I., p. 160*b*) greatly improved by the acquisition through coheiresses of the two castles of Caus in Salop and of Tunbridge in Kent, which had belonged to his ancestresses who eventually became coheiresses. Why he chose that moment to fortify himself on the hill near Stafford, when appointments in the service of the King were likely to keep him removed from all of them, is not clear; it is possible that it was, as I have said, the disturbed state of the vicinity, or that he felt his Earldom an obligation, and regarded his original baronial residence with increasing attachment. It is certain that during the life of this Earl much was done to provide there for the physical and spiritual necessities of his tenantry. Of these hereafter.

But the date of the mason's contract is far from being the only thing therein worthy of attention.

The contract with the mason, however, seems positively to express that not as in the other cases of record a mere "castre," castlewick, existed, but that there was some edifice to which the term castre in the sense of castle would be applicable, for it is dated, as that in Erdeswick's deed, "at the Castle" (à Châstel). This châstel could not have been upon the very site, for if that had been the case the contract would have spoken of repairs and of old materials, as to which it is wholly silent; I rather say that here châstel should be taken to mean something equivalent to the chief messuage within that which was popularly known as the castlewick. How such a popular use of the designation might occur I have before explained.

Two persons are mentioned as testifying to the seal of the Baron, viz., William de Colton, and John de Pickstoke. The former may have been a member of the Wasteney's family. The *nomina villarum temp. E. II.* (Shaw's "Staffordshire" Preliminary Matter XXXI. and II.) tells us that William de Wasteney and Anselm de Mareshall were owners of Colton, and John Pickestone of Dunston. In Dunston the last name is still that of a landed proprietor.

We may affirm from the Baron's seal being itself certified by special witnesses that the Baron was not present, that his patent to crenellate had not yet been delivered to him, but was soon looked for, and that Ralph in order to expedite the edifice had obtained the positive contract from the mason with that view. Probably he was afterwards surprised to find that the question of water supply might become a serious one, and necessitate further steps; but his

life was an active one, and the calls upon his time numerous, and we do not find any such steps taken until he had long been dead, that is in the reign of Henry IV., when relatively to that I find in the great cartulary now at Blithfield, at page 13, the following memorandum concerning a deep well at Stafford Castle. I have retained the orthography of the MS.

"In Henry 4th dayes a well was made at Stafford Castle that cost at that time liii. s., and also was allowed xxvi. s. for the cable roofs (ropes) for the same well the well was of exceeding depenesse." *Its depth seemed to have occasioned, a century later, an effort to obtain water more readily, for the mem. proceeds:* "Item, in the time of H. VIII. came ii. moynes (miners?) out of the florest of Deane to my lord, and promised to have some water within vij. ffdoms, and digged viij. fothms in the space of viii. dayes, and at the first spade depenes the (they) fond nothyng but mere marle that could not be dygged with no spade but pyked with a mattock and taken out with spoones and so for lacke of comfort of water they had dygged as the seyd the left dygging and said the never dygged so long in so drie a ground."

This account agrees, but not altogether, with an entry in Worswick's small book, now Salt MS. 369, which says that "in the tyme of Henry the Fourth there was a wheele made at Stafford Castle that cost fifty-three shillings, and two cable ropes that cost twenty-six shillings, and that there was a well there in digging, and by that it appeareth the well to be of exceeding deepnesse."

The persons now in charge of the Castle are supplied with drinking water from a neighbouring farm, and with other water from the roof of the Castle. The well above spoken of has long been disused; shaped stones that had once formed the staircase entry on the west of the castle had been placed around its mouth to protect it and prevent accidents, but owing to the careless or wilful acts of visitors these stones were removed or found a resting place at the bottom of the well; and the well, it seems, is now covered with rapidly decaying timber. The well lies below not far from the Castle on its north-eastern side.

With respect to the Free Chapel in the "Castre," as its existence at an early date, and the language used respecting it in early documents were necessary elements for the solution of questions relating to the chronology of the Baronial Castle, and this is confounded by many with that of the King's Castle, the

course of my narrative has compelled me to anticipate much of what otherwise would fall here into its more proper place. From what I before said, this Free Chapel would seem to have been originally founded by one of the earlier chiefs of the Norman race, and in the eleventh century that it was their chapel for the use of their immediate dependents; that it was close to, although not perhaps immediately within, the walls of the feudal residence; that its chaplain was, like others of a similar character, immediately dependent upon the Barons themselves and not upon the Diocesan. After the attainder of the last Duke the patronage must have escheated to the King. It appears from the "*Valor Ecclesiasticus*" to have been classed amongst the possessions within the Deanery of St. Mary Stafford, and the "*Verus valor*" of all the Prebends, Rectories, Vicarages, Hospitals, Free Chapels, and Chantries within the Collegiate Church of St. Mary of exempt jurisdiction at Stafford, says amongst other things:—

"*Libera Capella infra*¹ *Castrum Stafford: Johannes Apharry Magister ibidem percipit communibus annis de decimis herbagii 1s. summa (sic), of which the tithe is called 5s.*"

This formal entry of the sum of the value of course is erroneous, but the tithe (5s.) gives one indirectly.²

The old Chapel was in a ruinous state in 1348, when the masons contracted to build a new one; not, as I have said, perhaps upon the same spot, and it had been previously confounded with Castle Church in a litigation between the convents of Kenilworth and Stone.

When the Free Chapels and Chantries were dissolved in Edward VI.'s reign, the tithes were with other similar proceeds in and around Stafford and Castle Church granted to the Duke's son Henry, the first restored Lord.

It will again come under consideration in the Duke's Escheat.

¹ In medieval Latin the preposition "*infra*" is commonly used in the sense of "*intra*." See Duchesne's gloss: *in voce* "*infra*."

² The error seems corrected in the Salt MS., p. 6, which is a transcript from Gough's Stafford MSS. in the Bodleian, No. 3, *infra* p. 95.

THE PARISH AND ITS CHURCH.

The tenants in demesne (*in dominio*) of the feudal lords, and all who dwelt upon it, including those especially in the Castle itself, used, before free chapels were abolished, for all purposes except burials, the Chapel of St. Nicholas, which, as we have seen (*supra* pp. 21, 83), was a free chapel, situate "infra castellum." The patronage had been, at an early date, granted to the Priory of Kenilworth. The rest of the Manor of the Castle, viz., the part held "in servitio," was subverted from an epoch probably still more remote, by the church afterwards called Castle Church,¹ but styled as early as the time of Henry III., the Church of St. Mary in the Castle. Its proximity to this fortress, and a name calculated to mark it, have led to some confusion between chapel and church.

The patronage of the church long belonged to the Dean of the free chapel of the King in Stafford, so that its history is closely connected with that of the Royal Chapel, and can, it is believed, be rarely traced in the evidences at Lichfield, any more than can that of the Royal Chapel, except where disputes may have arisen as to patronage or authority.

The word parish, the first sense of which was derived from contiguity of houses, was not in the early centuries popularly employed with the precision of the present day. Thus the free chapel of the King was parochial according to the Inquisitions of the Nones, for the jurors are therein called its "parochiani" [Inq. Non., p. 128], and the lesser Chapel of St. Nicholas in the Castle is also said in the Stafford papers at the Castle to have had a parish, although neither at the time was subject to the Ordinary. The same remark would in early days apply to the district served by the Church of St. Mary below the Castle; it belonged to the Royal Chapel, and this was exempt from the diocesan authority.

Spelman and those who followed him, in the seventeenth century, in their lists of places, villis, and manors, specify Stafford Castle, but also name parts of its manor as if distinct from it; so we find Forebridge, Burton, and Rickardescote thus separately named. Rowley and Silkmere, however, are not there mentioned at all (see Adams' "Index Villaris," fo. 1680), but have been styled Manors in I. P. MS.; before we may presume them to have been

¹ So John Peploe is, in a register of this Church (*ad annum* 1729), mentioned as Curate Ecclesie parochialis *vulgo dictæ* "Castle." The first page of the oldest register, the Vicar's, faintly preserves the ancient dedication to St. Mary's. [U.]

comprised under either Castle Manor or Forbridge. The parish of St. Mary beneath the Castle embraced all land in the manor that was not demesne.¹

If we do not hear much of a parish here before the sixteenth century, it need not make us wonder, for not until the Royal Free Chapel of St. Mary's, Stafford, was dissolved, had St. Mary's in the Castle an independent existence. In the "*Valor Ecclesiasticus*" it is counted amongst the "*Spiritualia*" of the Deanery of the Royal Chapel, and is there called the Church *beneath* the Castle,² as if to prevent confusion.

This Church of St. Mary in the Castle (now known as Castle Church) belonged to the Royal Free Chapel of St. Mary, Stafford from the Conquest ("*Staff. Coll.*," Vol. 4, p. 113). The Staffords had nothing in it until they obtained the Royal Chapel in Stafford from Henry VI. in exchange for their Priory of Wootten Waven; and Staffords held it for nearly a century, that is until they lost it through the attainder of Edward Stafford Duke of Buckingham, *temp.* H. VIII. (A.D. 1521); it then returned, with Castle Church

¹ In our days the whole has been divided, for Church purposes, and Castle Church has lost two considerable districts; the one nearest to it has been formed into the parish called St. Thomas', while Forebridge and Rickerscote and Silkmore have been made into the new parish of St. Paul's. But "Castle Church" in the reign of Charles II. included all, for so Gregory King treats them. See Salt MS. 147 (formerly at Strawberry Hill), pp. 33 and 57.

² A name assigned to an object from its mere juxtaposition to another leads to uncertainty. Its identity may be guarded originally by words of limitation, but these become obliterated more or less by the curtailments of human speech. This church, now known as Castle Church, has been variously styled in different documents, and at different dates, St. Mary's in the Castle, the Church *infra* castellum, the Church *subtus* castellum, finally Castle Church. The first title distinguished it from the greater St. Mary's in Stafford, to which it belonged from the Conquest, and the last would seem to denote the use of the church by the residents in the Castle itself, a sense to which the more abbreviated designation well adapted itself; but such use could hardly have been earlier than the suppression of the Baron's free chapelry *infra* castellum, *temp.* E. VI. The expression "*subtus* castellum" is applied in the "*Valor Ecclesiasticus*," as I have said in the text, to Castle Church; whereas the Chapel of St. Nicholas is called therein the Chapel "*infra*" castellum. (See p. 84 in notes.) These prepositions will be now used to distinguish them. Both church and chapel appear to have coexisted in the eleventh century, and to have had different founders. A reference to extant evidences show them to have had also different patrons at early dates, the Staffords having the patronage of the chapelry, and the Royal Chapel in the county town having that of the church, although on one occasion the third feudal chief had wrongfully disposed of the Church ("*Staff. Coll.*," Vol. IV., p. 113). The endowment of the latter was four times that of the former. A still greater difference was this, that St. Nicholas was a free chapelry, and the church only part of the endowments of a free chapelry.

and other dependencies, to the Crown. So it continued until, by virtue of the Acts 37 H. VIII., c. 4, and 1 E. VI., c. 14 (1547), all colleges, churches, and free chapels and chantries were suppressed. From that time the Free Collegiate Chapel of St. Mary's, Stafford, and its dependent, St. Mary's below the Castle, as also the Free Chapel of St. Nicholas in the Castle, came to be directly dealt with by the last mentioned Statutes and by the Crown; St. Nicholas was absolutely suppressed, and its tithes given to Henry Lord Stafford, son of the Duke; St. Mary's, Stafford, became the Rectory of St. Mary's, Stafford, and the Castle Church, or Church of St. Mary beneath the Castle, became a perpetual Curacy, its connection with St. Mary's, Stafford, being at an end.

When St. Nicholas' Chapel, which had been the demesne chapel of the Staffords, was suppressed, the Staffords in the Castle naturally used for their devotions the nearest church to the Castle. This had been from the Conquest the proper church of the other tenants, those not in the demesne of the manor. But after the suppression we find Staffords mentioned in the registers, and one, Edward Lord Stafford, great-grandson of the attainted Duke, was actually buried in Castle Church, although almost all of the other earlier and later Staffords were buried elsewhere, viz., the earlier Barons and Earls, with two exceptions, at Stone; the three Dukes near where they fell, all by violent deaths; the first restored Baron Henry at Caus, and his lineal male descendant of the same name Henry, at Arundel.

That many Stafford monuments did not and do not appear in this ancient and interesting church "beneath the Castle," is explained by the fact that the Staffords did not until after the attainder of the Duke much reside in its vicinity, and if two monuments are spoken to by Loxdale as being there in the first half of the last century, this is explained by the fact of a residence there of some of the Lords and other members of the restored family.

Loxdale saw a shield on the exterior of the west tower window stonework, in which the Stafford chevron impaled the Nevill saltire. He saw also the same arms in stone as well as those of Poole, on the inside at the east end, which he evidently means although he says the north end. Mr. Nightingale also speaks to the arms of Stafford and Nevill on the outside.

The first shield, Stafford and Nevill, evidently refers to the alliance of Humfrey Earl of Stafford, afterwards Duke of Buck-

ingham, with Anne Neville, daughter of the Earl of Westmoreland. The last restoration by Sir Gilbert Scott in 1845 is understood to have preserved all the features of the ancient church, and this shield amongst them (and such also is the opinion of the Rev. Edward Allen, the present Vicar). [App. U.] The Poole arms also spoken to by Mr. Loxdale as in the inside of the church, seem, however, no longer to exist. It would allude to the alliance of Stafford with Ursula Plantagenet, daughter of that unfortunate Princess the Marchioness of Salisbury. Ursula survived her husband, he dying at Caus, A.D. 1562, and she dying A.D. 1569 (see the inquest on her death, 2 Eliz., *m.* 91). Both had survived their sister Elizabeth, the Duchess of Norfolk.

No document is likely to be found contradicting the verdict, *temp.* H. III., "Staff. Coll.," Vol. IV., p. 113, which tells that St. Mary's beneath the Castle had existed from the Conquest as a dependence of the Royal Chapel in Stafford, dedicated to the same saint. And as this Royal foundation is also alluded to under its "Canons Prebendaries" in Domesday Book as before having been King Edward's, this dependence may be assumed as also having existed as foundation in that Saxon King's time. Thus Castle Church has had, we may say, four distinguishing epochs. First, perhaps under the Saxon Earls or Kings; secondly, under the early Norman Sovereigns, when certainly it was a dependence of their Royal Chapel; thirdly, in the fifteenth century, under the Dukes of the Stafford race, who had succeeded to the King's rights in the chapel and dependencies in exchange for their Priory of Wotton Waven, co. Warwick; lastly, on the attainder of the last Duke, and their falling again into the hands of the King, we come to the fourth epoch in the history of Castle Church, for the dissolution of the Royal Chapel, as of all other free chapels not long afterwards, left Castle Church independent, and the residents of the Castle *without* their separate free chapel. Then the restored Barons when at the Castle, perhaps, used the nearest neighbouring place of worship, *i.e.*, Castle Church, for their devotions, although they never had the patronage, and so the parish was occasionally treated and spoken of under the joint names, as the parish of Castle Church and St. Nicholas. At least it is so entitled in the Royal Compositions (*supra*, p. 53). I should not, however, be surprised if it turned out here, as at the Duke's other residence at Thornbury, that he and his family having also there their chapel with an adjacent church, used both (*infra*, p. 106, *n.*).

Of a Parish of Castle Church and the structure itself little has been found *eo nomine*, until the time of the second Tudor, when Thomas Stamford of Rowley is said to have been buried in the churchyard of Castle Church. ("Staff. Coll.," Vol. III., Part 2, p. 136.)

The Church, restored in 1841,¹ appeared to the architect, Sir Gilbert Scot, to have marks of great antiquity in chancel and nave. In 1817 Mr. Pitt had spoken of it "as an ancient edifice, composed of brick on the one side, and stone, and as whitewashed on the other, with a stone tower. Of what it was at the close of the previous century we have a probably very faithful, though rude, representation amongst the unpublished plates of Stebbing Shaw's History."²

The "Annals of the Diocese of Lichfield," Vol. IV., p. 51, cite the following entry from the Inventory of Church Goods, 6 E. VI., *i.e.*, of "Castelchurche:" Fyrste, one alter clothe, ij. hanginges for the alter, one oll whyte satten, the other of painted clothe, one cope of bleu satten, one vestement of dornes,³ one olde vestement of red & blewe sylke, one vestement of whyte diaper, one albe, one towell, iij. belles & on sanctus bell. Also ther was at the makynge of the laste inventorey, one pyxe of silver, by estimacion iij. unces, the whiche William Stanforde of Rowley dyd cleame as his owne & so had it from the parish. Md. that thes parcels followynge were stolne furthe of the sayde churche at Christmas beinge in the vth yere of the reygne of our Soverayane Lord King Edw. the Syxte, *i.e.*, one chalice of sylver parcell gylte, one corporas with a case, ij. alter clothes, ij. albes, a surples & ij. towells.

The earliest Register Book of St. Mary's, Castle Church, is a small folio of parchment in a stitched parchment cover; the first page is very faint. The earliest entry is of the year 1567, after the Church had become independent of St. Mary's, Stafford. In the year mentioned John Cockes is recorded as "Curate."

¹ To this the present Vicar, the Rev. Edward Allen, bears testimony.

² Mr. Nightingale had previously said, in his "History of Staffordshire," of this Church, "Its architecture is various. The north side" (does he mean the east side?) "which is older than any other part of it, is distinguished by a plain arch of a circular form and a round-headed window. Its southern division has been lately rebuilt of brick. The tower, which is somewhat more modern, is ornamented on the west side with a coat of arms, the same as on the Lady Stafford's mantle exhibited in Plate XXII. of Shaw's "History."

³ Darnex, linsey-wolsey; Halliwell, "ictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words."

From the above date the volume records the names of residents in this parish. Some are of interest as connected with members of the restored Baronial House of Stafford, and others as names of then residents here or as connected with parochial incidents of more or less interest. Of the latter, one emphasizes the deplorable emoluments in the times immediately following the dissolution of the colleges and free chapels of the minister of this enfranchised Church. In the "*Valor Ecclesiasticus*" the value of the Spiritualia arising out of the Church "*subtus castellum*," and affected to the Deanery of Stafford, had amounted to a sum seeming now nominally small, but which is often regarded as the equivalent of £1,000 per annum. The Curates of Castle Church were not to obtain any part of this. That took a different non-ecclesiastical direction, so that the aid of the Governors of the Queen Anne's Bounty had to be afterwards applied to for an augmentation of Castle Church.

In the intermediate time during the Commonwealth the meagreness of his resources was made the subject of complaint and petition by the then (1658) Minister John Lineal, the author of an acrostic poem addressed "To his Highnesse Richard by God's providence the second Lord Protector of our Common Wealth, etc."¹

How the Curates were at first maintained does not appear, unless in the way provided by 1 E. VI., c. 14, s. 8, but on the 21st January, 1656-7, Oliver Cromwell granted by letters of Privy Seal [Dep. Keeper, 5th Report, App. II., p. 260], to "John Lyneall, Curate of Castlechurch, in Staffordshire, xx*li*. in full satisfaction of the arrears of viij*li*. per annum due to him as Curate there for two years and a half, ended 29th September last."

Some mention may be made of names occurring in the earlier Registers. To begin with the noble restored House of Stafford, they are silent as to Henry, the first Lord (he died at Caus in Shropshire), but they name his seneschal and "*scribarius*," Stephen Norris, who was buried here in 1564; the interment of his son Lord Henry, Knight, is commemorated 1st January, 1565-6, "*ab hac luce migravit apud Stafford Castell & sepultus fuit in hac ecclesia*." Some Staffords of this line are entered in the Register. Of other

¹ Each letter in the title of the poem becomes in its turn the commencement of one of the 147 verses which compose it. The following lines then conclude the composition:—

"Your Highnesse suppliant humbly in the Lord,
John Lineal, Preacher of God's sacred word

residents the following names occur: Adams (husband of Sarah Salt, 1697), Adderley, Adshead, Anson, Aston, Barbor, Bayley, Berington, Beterton, Bickerton, Carelesse, Chamberlane *alias* Backhouse, Chomley (Cholmondeley) Clarke, Cockes (John, Curate), Collins, Dickenson, Dovey (of Ricarscote), Drakeford (of Forbridge), Eardswick (Sampson son of John), Foxe (of Rowley), Gonway, Gouldsmith, Harcourt, Hervey, Humptbach, Keen, Lees, Lineall John (Minister), Lyttelton, Macclesfield, Norris, Palmer, Pursley, Salt, Spooner, Sutton, Talbot, Thorley, Whitgreave (of Burton very often), Whitmore, Yornall. [U.]

Christenings and interments are sometimes mentioned as celebrated at St. Mary's, Stafford, or at Stafford. A child upon one occasion is christened at Bradeley. Mention is made of Thomas Salt the son of Richard Salt and C[lem]aunce his wife, as christened at Billyngton Chapel in 1600.

The Registers afford materials for a complete list of the Curates (the Act of E. VI. makes them perpetual Curates or Vicars) from the commencement of the independence of the Church; the first name being John Cockes. Afterwards and in later times officiating Ministers are spoken of, and it may be not easy to distinguish these always from the Incumbents proper. Once at least the Church itself was held by a Rector of St. Mary's, Stafford, and the officiating Minister may have been the latter's Curate. [U.]

The Ecclesiastical Census for 1676 [Salt MS. 33] tells us that in Castle Church there then were 171 Conformists, 7 Papists, and 2 Non-Conformists, which number would seem to omit children under sixteen years of age.

The Register Book in a memorandum on the fly leaf shows the

At Castle Church, a place in Staffordshire,
Where he receiveth eight pounds by the year,
Which he hath truly in Exchequer pay,
For which he thanks your Highnesse night and day.
He aged is full threescore yeares and ten,
A long time now to live with mortall Men,
His wife also is threescore years and one,
That Stipend poor they still do live upon.
Now if your Highnesse would be so much pleas'd,
That his eight pounds to forty pound be rais'd,
He thinks that he should live with more content,
Then hundred pounds thrice (*sic*) some receive in rent,
Though 's (*sic*) stipend be but eight pounds by the year,
Which he receives for feeding souls so dear,
Yet his poor Tallent he will never hide,
In verse he writes, yet God is still his guide."

gross number of inhabitants every ten years from 1821 to 1851. They were respectively, 1,118, 1,374, 1,479, and 2,315. The last number is made up of 490 for Castle Church, 1,140 for Forebridge and Queensville, 175 for Rickerscote, and 515 for Newtown. But in 1861 the whole parish contained 3,362, and in 1871, 5,581, and in 1881, 5,923 inhabitants. [U.]

The Tithe Reference Book furnishes data as to ownership and occupancy and division of the parish in 1844. At that date the whole area of 3,784 acres which it contains appears divided into 1,224 parts, inclusive of land held under certain public trusts, such as the Grammar School, the Road Trusts, and Forbridge Liberty and certain charities. About 113 proprietors are named, and about 2,310 occupiers, say 700 families.

Nor are those Tithe Reference Books, with their Tithe Maps, without utility or interest to the topographical or philological inquirer.

The greatest number of field names here as elsewhere, are derived from nature of the land as:—Sandy Flat, Hunger Hill, Rough, Rising Brook. *Culture*, as Shepherd Piece, Barley Field. *Distance or nearness*, as Outland, inland. *Proximity to other object*, as Castle Field, Causeway Meadow, Broad Eye Meadow. *Use*, Swan's Nest, Wash Pit Leasow, Brook Flat, Marl Pit. *Applications*, Doles, Butts, Commons, Stockings. *Size*, Big or little. *Shape*, Slang, triangle, nook. *Elevation*, Hough. *Change*, Intake. *Animals*, Foxfield, Horseleyfield. *Distinctive mark*, as One Oak Field. *Vegetation*, Ferney Flat, Broomley, Aldenpole, Moss Pit, Sallow Croft, Ash Flat. Some names are less intelligible: Potrake End Meadow, Minors Grave, Raddle Hill, Picklestitch, Bur Leys.¹ Rose Ford Meadow is a changed name for Rowe's Ford Meadow. A few serve to illustrate occurrences or ancient sports or paths; thus one inclosure called Hern Hays, would indicate the heron's resort, and the sport which it afforded to the fowler. Again, the direction of Queen Elizabeth's progress from the Broad Eye to the Castle on the hill may have followed the line indicated by the "Lodge Fields;" the site or lands of the Hospital of St. Leonard's, by Spital Field and Chapel Leasow; those of the Austin Friars, by Friars' Ground, the Friars', etc. Nor do the closes to the north-west of the Castle, called Banky Meadow, and the Bagot Oaks

¹ *Raddle* seems to be from a Saxon root, and to imply wreathing or interlacing, as of hurdles, etc. *Bur* is of common use in Staffordshire for stones rough hewn, but for other meanings, see the dictionaries of Dr. Ash, etc.

between Rowley and Hyde Field, or Gallows Flat, seem without suggestive interest. So the lands which we have spoken of *supra*, pp. 41, 42, as at an early date appropriated to the Deanery of the Royal Chapel in Stafford, still retain names indicative of their ancient use, which led to their being classed in the "Valor Ecclesiasticus" amongst the Temporalia of that Deanery, viz., Dean's Field, Dean's Hill Meadow, Dean's Croft.

Several local Acts have dealt with the land here.

Thus the road known as the Newport Road, leading from Stafford through a part of this parish in the direction of Haughton, has been considerably diverted, altered and widened, by the Act 33 Geo. III., c. 153, the Commissioners having been authorized to take the necessary land from adjoining owners. The necessity for the Act appeared from the insecure state of the roads, and the want of fords or bridges, as well as the frequent inundations. The same Act provided for similar changes with respect to the road from Stafford to Churchbridge. It appeared from the same Act that the owner of the Silkmore Farm had theretofore been liable to repair that part of the last turnpike road between the Spital Brook and Radford Bridge.

Of the Castle Church bells, the two of three which remain are thus inscribed: "God save Queen Ann. A.R. By Silkmore Goldsmith wee preserved were."

The open and common fields called Green Field and Green Common, and Marsh Meadow and waste lands in Forebridge and Parish of Castle Church, having been more or less subject to be overflowed, and on that account yielding little profit to those interested therein, and in their then state being incapable of improvement, at the beginning of this century an Act was passed, the 39 and 40 Geo. III., c. 58, by virtue of which were enclosed, drained, and embanked the Common fields, Marsh Meadow, and waste lands in Forebridge and Parish of Castle Church, by which also they were divided and allotted in certain convenient portions to the different parties concerned, two enclosures being reserved for the general use of the parishioners.

This Act treats Forbridge as a *Manor* and a *Liberty*, pp. 20-25, and speaks of the highways and other roads within the *Liberties* of Burton and Rickerscote, p. 23.

The land dealt with involved the interests not only of the Lord of the Manor, but of the mill owners and occupiers and parishioners, and the Act respected their rights. Thomas Anson and John Moore were then tithe holders in Rickerscote and Burton.

MANORIAL CHAPELS AND HOSPITALS.

Who will not be pardoned for supposing Bethenei and its vicinity to have been in Saxon times a religious centre of importance, comparatively speaking? To this supposition the very name Bethenei (Latin form, Bethania), as well as the legends of two Saints seem to give support. A Hermitage or Oratory is spoken to in them. A Collegiate Church existed certainly in Edward the Confessor's reign, having, in Saxon times even, more than double the number of Canons that Lichfield had at the Conquest. Bethenei had besides a mother church dedicated to her Hermit Saint, St. Bertelin,¹ and a parish church dedicated to his contemporary Saint, St. Chad.

A place not far off, Bishton (Bishopstown), connected somehow the whole neighbourhood with services of ecclesiastical life.

No wonder then that the inquirer finds a larger body of religious men existing here and in its neighbourhood in the first half of the twelfth century, than now minister to the necessities of a far greater population. The Grey Monks² were at Yarlet ("Staffordshire Collection," Vol. II., p. 50), and some have thought that the Templars had possessions in Burton, relying upon an ancient list in "Monast. Angl.," Vol. II., p. 533, of dubious application.

It seems not unlikely that at an early date there existed in the Borough town some religious infirmary, and that this was afterwards removed to Forbridge (*see infra*). We meet also with the designation of Marey le Eremita. Of the foundation of the Free Chapel of St. Nicholas in the Castle we know not precisely the date.

And a leper house, called of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, was found extant in the reign of Henry III., although in the state of decay recorded of so many institutions of the same class in the reigns of the earlier Angevin Princes, for which see the index to the "Rot. Parl."

Loxdale, and after him Dr. Wilkes and Richard Gough, cite from documents in the Augmentation Office [Wilkes, Salt MS.,

¹ St. Berthelin's Day is named in early charters of the Priory of St. Thomas the Martyr's as a day for payment of rents. (See "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. VIII., Part I.)

² Roger Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury being Domesday owner of the manors of Yarlet and Marston (Erlhide and Mersetone), near Stafford, whilst he gave lands in the latter to the Church of St. Evroult in Normandy, sheltered monks of the shortlived order of Savigni (Grey Monks) in Yarlet. See the tenancy *in capite* of Roger in the Domesday of Staffordshire, and Ord. Vit., Book 5, c. 13, and Book 6, c. 4.

Gough's "Transcript of Charters relating to Stafford" in the Bodleian, pp. 70-76] various details respecting the churches, chapels, and hospitals of Stafford and Castle Church. After mentioning that the church called the Castle Church, and that of St. Bertelin, as well as the Chapels of Hopton, Marston, and Salt, were all members belonging to the College of Stafford, served by priests ministering at the charge of the Dean and certain of the Prebendaries; here is what these documents say of the Free Chapel of St. Nicholas within the Castle, and of the Free Chapels of St. Leonard and St. John the Baptist:—

"The Free Chapel of St. Nicholas, founded (*supra*, pp. 18, 22, 23) time out of mind, by whom it is unknown; of one priest, perpetually to celebrate and to minister in the said chapel to all the inhabitants of the said Castle as if it were a parish church, in all things except burial, which hath been always at the Church of Stafford. The yearly value [at the time of the suppression itself] consisting wholly of tythes, £5 16s. 8d. Plate or goods, none.

"The Free Chapel of St. Leonard by Forbridge beside Stafford, commonly called the Spittle Chapel, founded by Ralph, sometime Earl of Stafford, for perpetual finding of one priest perpetually to celebrate, and also for relief of poor people. But no poor people have been there relieved these twenty years past. The yearly value, £7 2s.; reprises, 2s. 2d.; remains, £6 19s. 10d. One bell in the end of the Chapel. Plate or goods, none.

"The Free Chapel of St. John the Baptist in Forbridge beside Stafford, commonly called the Hospital, founded sometime by Ralph Earl of Stafford (as it is supposed), to have one incumbent perpetually to celebrate there, and to have four poor people there sustained. But howbeit no poor people have been sustained there within five years before the 4th day of November last past, nor of long time before. The yearly value, £10 2s. 8d.; reprises, 2s. 6d.; remains, £10 0s. 2d. Plate, parcel-gilt, five ounces; ornaments, 3s. 10d. Two bells in the end of the chapell."

Such was the condition of these hospitals at the time of their dissolution, *temp.* Hen. VIII. Their foundation charters have not been met with. More is known as to the Austin Friars. The King of his especial grace, by his Patent 18 E. III., Part II., m. 33, granted and gave licence to Ralph Baron of Stafford, Steward of his Household, to found—in honour of Jesus Christ and the glorious Virgin Mary His mother, and the blessed Augustin and all the Saints of God, and for the healthful state of

himself and Margaret his wife¹ and their children, and of Humfrey de Hastang, Archdeacon of Coventry, whilst they should continue in this life, and of their souls when they should have departed this life, and the souls of their ancestors and their heirs, and of all faithful men deceased—a certain house of Hermit Friars of the Order of St. Augustin, in Forbrugge near Stafford, and licence also to give and assign to the Priors and Friars to be appointed in the house by the same Ralph, five acres of land with appurtenances in the same town, holden by himself of the King *in capite* as parcel of the Barony of Stafford (as is shown by an inquisition taken thereupon, and returned into the King's Chancery), for building a church and other proper dwellings for their inhabitation there. And the King moreover granted licence to the aforesaid Archdeacon to give and assign to the same Prior and Friars a certain fountain in the same town of Forebrugge holden immediately of the said Baron (as by the same inquisition returned into the King's Chancery likewise appears), for a certain subterraneous aqueduct to be made to their church and house aforesaid, therewith to hold to the same Prior and Friars and their successors, together with the aforesaid five acres of land and the appurtenances, in pure and perpetual alms. And the King gave also especial licence thereby to the same Prior and Friars to receive the aforesaid land and fountain, with the appurtenances, from the aforesaid Baron and Archdeacon, and to build a church and other dwellings for their inhabitation there, as also the conduit aforesaid, and hold the same to them and their successors for ever in pure and perpetual alms as aforesaid; and they were not, by reason of the Statute of Mortmain, or because the land was held of the King *in capite* as aforesaid, to be hindered or in any way molested or aggrieved by the King or his heirs, justices, escheators, sheriffs, or other bailiffs or ministers whatsoever.

About the year 1361 John Bakehouse and Cecily his wife were received into the fraternity of the Order of the Friars Eremites of St. Austin of Stafford, by the act of John their local Prior. (Harl. MS. 2042-2926.) The value of such a reception to the fraternity seems considerable, if we may judge by entries in the

¹ Dugdale ("Baronage," Vol. I., p. 161) cites an original charter (*pates* Earl Elgin) eighteen years prior to the patent above recited, from which it would seem that Ralph was twice married, and that Ralph's foundation was for the soul also of his first wife, Katherine, and for the soul of Sir Humphrey Hastang; the patent above recited speaks of but one wife, Margaret; she was heiress of Hugh de Audley, Earl of Gloucester, but Doyle's "Official Baronage," Vol. III., p. 385, mentions the two wives.

"Valor Ecclesiasticus," Vol. III., p. 168. Under the Commonwealth, A.D. 1654, Henry Brandreth, he having four years previously paid the purchase money, is certified as grantee of an annual rent, or tenth reserved from the respective tenants for the site of the Priory of St. Augustine, viz., £xiiij. iii.s. ij.d. ob. (Salt MS., "Royal Compositions," Vol. I., p. 437.)

According to Leland, "Itin.," Vol. VII., p. 28, both the Hospital of St. John the Baptist and the Austin Hermit Friars stood upon the Green at Forbrugge. To the latter the images that lay upon the alabaster tombs of the Staffords, he tells us, were removed from Stone Abbey after its suppression.

Of the antiquity of a hospital called St. John of Stafford there can be no doubt. A Hospital of St. John existed as early as the year 1208, when Hugh fitz Ralph remitted by fine to Eudo, the Prior of the Hospital of St. John of Stafford, forty acres in Castel. ("Staffordshire Collections," Vol. III., p. 173.¹) King Henry III., in the seventh year of his reign ("Close Rolls," ed. Hardy, fo. 1832, p. 536), granted to this hospital thirty waggon loads of wood from the Forest of Cannock.

Half a century afterwards we find the Master of this hospital engaged (Pat. 51 H. III., m. 9, *in dorso*) in litigation about a

¹ This seems too early for the Hospital of St. John the Baptist in Forebridge, and yet a Hospital of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem would command a co-extensive title, however true that Robert the father of Miliacent, had, as Dugdale ("Baronage," p. 156) says, "undergone" a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Again, it is noteworthy that forty acres in Castel was also the number mentioned as appropriated in the same manor to the Royal Deanery, and that the present foundation of the Royal Chapel of St. Mary, Stafford, is by some referred to King John (Salt Transcript of Gough MS., Bodleian, p. 4). The above fine is important to show that Castel was here a manor name as early at least as the middle of King John's reign, and not so far from the date of the convention between the two other Kings, in consequence of which so many baronial castles were demolished (*supra*, p. 18). Castel near Stafford is also spoken of as a vill in Patents 9 E. I., 13, *dorso*, and 12 Edw. I., m. 10. If this Hospital of St. John of Stafford is really not that of Forebridge, it would seem to have been suppressed soon afterwards, and the forty acres to have been otherwise appropriated; but some explanation is wanting; at all events the Royal Chapel had appropriated to it from remote date forty acres in this parish; and a Hospital of St. John had their claim also to "forty acres" recognized by Hugh fitz Ralph in the above fine. (*Confer*. Sir Simon Degge's enumeration of the lands that belonged to St. Leonard's Spital, "Chetw. Coll.," Vol. II., p. 101, n. 2.) Footnote, p. 101, *infra*.

² A Wymer long held the King's Pool. Adam Wymer was procurator for the King (Pat. Roll, 45 H. III., m. 6) concerning his free chapel, the Dean and Canons having to defray Wymer's claim for labour and expenses touching their own affairs. As to other members of this family of Wymer (*see supra*, pp. 44, 45).

tenement in Forbrugge, with William Wymar² and Ralph his son, and about a tenement in a suburb of Stafford with Henry le Freyster. (Pat. 54 H. III., *m.* 17, *dorso*; *m.* 24; and see *supra*, p. 50.) So A.D. 1270, the defendants in the last suit appear as plaintiffs in a cross action against the Prior of Forbrugge (Pat. 54 H. III., *m.* 4); and in the latter suit the plaintiff is called Peter, custodian of the Hospital of St. John near the Bridge of Stafford, and he is suing for a tenement in the Forthe. . . . (? Forthebridge).

In the next reign we find tenements in Roulowe in dispute between Richard de Roulowe and Peter, Prior of St. John near Stafford; also land in Forbrugge near Stafford disputed between Richard de Burton, Clerk, and Roger de Baggeworth, Master of the same hospital. (Pat. 5 E. I., *m.* 9, *in dorso*.)

Later, by Patent 9 E. I., *m.* 11, *in dorso*, tenements in Roweleye are claimed by William de la Wrosene against Petronilla de la Wrosene and Richard Wadell. Again in the same year (*m.* 4, *in dorso*) Walter atte Havendon raises a question of right concerning tenements in the same place.

Later, by Patent 17 E. III., *m.* 14, *in dorso*, a suit was pending between Will de Levedale and the Prior of the same hospital, touching tenements in Stafford, and between the said William and Hawisia, once wife of William Raulet, touching tenements in Forbrugge.

In one, placitum 22 E. I. ("Staff. Coll.," Vol. VII., p. 121), the plaintiff John de Haseleye, Master of St. John the Baptist near the Bridge of Stafford, claimed a house and a carucate of land and 40s. rent, describing them as arising from property in a suburb of Stafford. But Edmund Baron Stafford answered as tenant, and said that John was no longer Master, having been deposed from his authority by the Ordinary, and another, Richard, appointed Master in his stead, on the said Baron's presentation, which Richard having been similarly deposed, another, Roger, who was now Master, had been presented also upon his presentation. The jury said that John was not Master, nor ever was, because he never had anything but a certain livery.¹

The Patent Roll 25 E. I., *m.* 3, *in dorso*, shows Richard de

¹ The Baron had also denied that the property was in Stafford or any suburb, but contended that it was in Bradeley, which it then undoubtedly was; whereas Foregate, which adjoins Stafford on its opposite (north) side, had been some years previously in the same reign adjudged to be a suburb of Stafford, and geldable therewith. ("Staff. Coll.," Vol. VI., Part I., p. 287.)

Burton, Clerk, claiming (1296-7) tenements in Forbrugge near Stafford, against Roger de Baggeworth, Master of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist near the Bridge of Stafford, and John de Baggeworth. (*See also p. 50, supra.*)

Later, by Patent 26 E. III. (A.D. 1352-3), Part I., *m.* 9, the King gave licence to Ralph Earl of Stafford to grant to the Master and brethren of the same hospital of St. John near Stafford, 100*s.* in rent, with appurtenances, in the town of Stafford, which, *as it was said*, was not held of the King *in capite*, to have and to hold to the Master and brethren and their successors, to find a certain chaplain to celebrate divine service, every day, according to an ordinance to be made in that behalf, for ever. And the King licensed the same Master and brethren that they might be able to receive the rent aforesaid with the appurtenances from the said Earl, and hold the same to them and their successors for ever, the Statute of Mortmain notwithstanding. The King moreover was unwilling that the Earl or his heirs, or the aforesaid Master or brethren or their successors should, by reason of the said statute, be hindered or molested by his heirs or his ministers whatsoever therein, saving nevertheless to the other chief lords of that fee the services theretofore due or accustomed.

The early existence of a Hospital of St. Lazarus of Retford is certified to us by three records, of which Dugdale and Tanner apparently were not aware. Taking these in the order of time, by a fine passed before the Justices in Eyre in the 39th of Hen. III. (A.D. 1254-5), *m.* 161, after duel waged in the same Court, a compromise was arrived at between Walter Master of the hospital, who appeared by brother William de Brerelacton, complainant, and Hugh de Lokesay, tenant, as to the right to two crofts with appurtenances in Silkemer, the aforesaid Master acknowledging them to be the right of Hugh, and Hugh paying the Master half a mark of silver, and granting also to him half of the said land, that is the half nearest to the land of the hospital, to hold to the Master and his successors and the brethren of the aforesaid hospital of the aforesaid Hugh and his heirs, in pure and perpetual alms for ever, so that it should be lawful for the Master, his successors and brethren, to inclose the aforesaid moiety with a ditch and hedge, and to make thereof their profit at their will, without let or impediment of the same Hugh or his heirs for ever, with Hugh's warranty therefor, and without any services on the side of the hospital; the other half of the said land to remain

to Hugh and his heirs for ever, to hold of the chief lords of that fee by the service pertaining to the fee.¹

A few years afterwards, that is on the 17th October, 42 H. III., m. 2, apparently the same hospital, by the name of the Hospital of Lepers of the Holy Sepulchre of Retford outside Stafford, have the King's Letters of Protection to last for five years.

But the times seem to have been bad for Prince, Peers, and Commons, and the county sided with the Barons against the King, and not long afterwards comes the proof that the letters of protection had not stood them in much stead, for by an inquisition *ad quod damnum* 29 E. I (1301-2), it appears that the following jurors, Stephen de Wyllaston (Wollaston), Robert de Mareys, Robert de Luteywode, Richard Godfrey, William Sturvel, William the Clerk of Weston, Walter Robert de Bykeford, Richard the Clerk of Barton, Richard Kyry of Rickardescote, Peter de Colchester, and William le Bedel of Sondon, found that it was not to the damage of the King or any other person, if the King gave license to Edmund² Baron of Stafford to grant the Hospital of St. John of Stafford in which the brethren and sisters have been accustomed to dwell, and allow the Hospital of the Holy Sepulchre of Roteford, in which lepers and other poor and infirm people have been accustomed to reside, to the Minister and Brethren of the Order of the Holy Trinity of Tevelesford; to have and to hold to them and their successors, with all things to the same hospitals pertaining, for ever. Also they said that the Priory of the said Hospital of St. John, and the Warden of the aforesaid Hospital of the Holy Sepulchre, were not accustomed to keep hospitality, nor were they burthened therewith except of their own free will, saving nevertheless that the Wardens of the aforesaid Hospital of the Holy Sepulchre were accustomed to receive lepers with goods and chattels; but they were not bound to support them unless at their own free will. They

¹ In a similar case of the Priory of St. John the Baptist, the service due to the Stafford Baron is specified to be the doing suit at the Court of Bradeley every three weeks, and that every man of the Master of the hospital should find a man, or substitute for himself, every year in autumn to reap the corn of the same Robert and his heirs, receiving only (in recompense) each his proper food. (See 32 H. III. 1247-8, m. 137.) This service contrasts favourably with that due from a tenant of St. Evroult in the manor of Marston, near Stafford. (See Grucoc's grant to the Friars Minors, Stafford, A.D. 1304-5, Inq. *ad quod damnum*, E. I., p. 230.)

² This Edmund Baron Stafford was buried in the ground of the Minorites in the Foregate. Remains enclosed in lead have recently been disinterred there. These some consider to be possibly the Baron's. He died in his 34th or 35th year, see Inquiry of Age, App. (I.).

also say that the Prior and the Warden of the said hospitals have been driven away from the said hospitals on account of their poverty and destitution; and the said Edmund is able to give and assign to the said Minister and brethren of the Order of the Holy Trinity aforesaid the said hospitals without doing injury to the said Prior, Warden, brethren and sisters, and infirm people. Also they say that the alms which in those hospitals were wont to be given, have been withheld on account of their poverty and destitution and for no other cause; and they say that the alms have been withdrawn since the feast of St. Martin in the 26th year of the reign of King Edward, and are still subtracted.¹

Again, upon the dissolution of the College of St. Mary's, the King settled part of lands (*ubi supra*, p. 32) upon the two chappels or hospitals of St. John in Forbridge and the free chapel of St. Leonard's, the spittle near Stafford, and tythes belonging to the Prebend of Stafford.

This is an interesting account of what appears to have been a more ancient leper house in Silkmore. The details are clear and explicit, and yet did that intended transfer to the community at Tevelesford ever take effect? We know anyhow this, that before the Reformation, two centuries later, there existed a leper house and chapel in Silkmore apparently in the vicinity or occupying the land of the former, but called by a different name, *i.e.*, the Hospital and Free Chapel of St. Leonard, the lands of which are now part of the endowment of the Grammar School at Stafford. The Fraternity of Tevelesford were called Maturins Trinitarians, and were instituted for the redemption of captives. (*See* Dugd. "Warw.," p. 393; "Monast. Angl.," Vol. II., p. 831); Leland "Itin.," Vol. IV., p. 66, says "it was a house of small possessions."²

However, the transfer proposed by Ralph Baron of Stafford coincides with what Rous of Warwick in his history says of similar foundations; for after explaining how the Priory of the Holy Sepulchre came to be founded, he tells us that it arose out of

¹ It will be seen hereafter that the heir to the said Edmund Baron Stafford, remised lands belonging to the Hospital of Retford at Selkmore to John de Wenlock.

² Sir Simon Degge's Collection, *apud* Chetwynd ("Chetwynd Staffordshire Collections now at Ingestre," Vol. II., p. 32), tells us as follows: "There was a small religious house in Rowley juxta Stafford, which had these grounds belonging to it, *viz.*, the Gorsty Leasow, the Stange" (perhaps this should be Slang, one sense of which is "a long narrow piece of ground," as one sense of Stang is "a rood of land") (as to both, *see* Halliwell, "Archaisms and Provincialisms"), "the Chapell Leasow, nine acres in Greenfield in Rowley nuper Capella (*sic*), St. Leonardi; Minors Grayfield, St. John's Byrch."

the successes in Jerusalem; but after the repeated destruction of Jerusalem, almost all the houses of the Order vanished, and the indigence of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre ensued. He concludes with the words: "*Horum modo proficium transfertur, cum privilegiis, ad ordinem fratrum S. Trinitatis cujus sunt fratres S. Roberti de Knarrisburg, Handlow, et Telesford, et multo alii.*" (See Dugd. "*Mon.*," Vol. II., p. 573.) Later we find, *temp.* Hen. V. Parliament petitioned on account of the unsatisfactory state and subtraction of alms from similar houses. ("*Rot. Parl.*," Vol. IV., p. 80.)

"The founders of useful charities," said Mr. Keen, in a pamphlet published at Stafford in 1808, "are gratefully remembered as the benefactors of mankind." The earlier benefactions in the Castle Manor which had been embodied in the foundations of free chapels and hospitals, did not wholly become obliterated with the suppression of these, or the downfall of the Staffords; much survived, taking a different, but still a charitable form.

Forebridge, which Dr. Wilkes said was famous in former times for the benefactions of the Staffords, has also through certain of its more recent inhabitants contributed its part to the general fund of charity. Although subsequent changes have, for general purposes, scholastic, rating, and election, &c., involved its history in that of the adjoining borough, they here deserve a note and reference.¹

It long possessed common rights in about 120 acres of land, but having been found inconvenient for use and culture, and subject to frequent flooding, portions of these were allotted by 39 and 40 Geo. III. to certain persons in respect of their several interests. A remnant of this still remains available, under the names of the Green Field and Green Common, to certain occupiers and parishioners, claiming by custom.

Simon Fowler charged his leasehold premises at Rule, by will dated 11th April, 1663, with the payment of 40*s.* per year for the use of poor persons, inhabitants of Forebridge. He devised also his

¹ The names are those of Mr. Roger Hinton, formerly of Rickarscote; Thomas Goldsmith, and Thomas Backhouse, *alias* Chamberlain. (As to these charities, see the pamphlet above mentioned by Mr. Keen; see also the "*Charities in the County of Stafford*," selected from the voluminous Parliamentary Reports from 58 George III. to 7 William IV., published 1839; also "*Analytical Digest of Reports of Charities, &c., in Staffordshire, 1843*," pp. 10 and 34; see also "*Analytical Digest of Charities*," *ibid.*, as to the Free School, Forebridge, founded by will of P. Bridgman, regulated by decree of Common Charity Uses, 1826, for poor children of the township of Forebridge, and the income of which, A.D. 1824, was £15, and the number of children taught fifty-three. (See remarks of Rev. E. Allen, App. U.)

land, &c., at "Risan" brook (except the fishponds and liberties, to get clay and clods upon the premises for the necessary repair thereof), after the death of Ann his wife, to Margaret Backhouse, widow, his daughter, and her heirs, they paying for ever 40s. for the use of the poor of Forebridge.

Fifty years ago Mr. John Moore of the Toft near Stafford, was owner of the property called Risingbrook, which is a small estate, the Charity Commissioners find, of about 35 acres in the parish of Castle Church. Rickerscote had also in remote times become charged with a payment to the Prior of St. Thomas, and with Burton it paid, it seems, tithes to support presumably a prebend of the Royal Chapel at Stafford, namely, Burton Prebend, *supra*, p. 37.¹

A Plea Roll *temp.* E. I. ("Staff. Coll.," Vol. VI., p. 129) shows a question in litigation between Peter the Master and the Hospital of St. John of Stafford, and Nicholas Baron of Stafford, to carry out the terms of a fine levied previously between William, formerly Master of the Hospital, and Robert de Stafford, father of the said Nicholas, whose heir he was, respecting suit and service at the Court of Bradeleye. But the Baron, who was serving in the expedition against the Welsh, was found to be protected by the King's letters from such suit, and the termination of the suit does not appear.

The Annals of Lichfield Diocese, Vol. IV., p. 51, has this memorandum: "That in the Hospitall of Saynt John in Forbrugge, remeyns ij. bells, the challece, vestements, and other ornaments belongynge to the sayd Hospitalle, Rychard Forsett, surveor, dyd take away, before the making of the laste inventories."

¹ The interest of the Priory of St. Thomas in Rickerscote is described in the "Inspecimus" of Pope Celestin's Bull as the meadow called Brokage, and as having been conferred upon the Priory by Reginald Gawle. (Chetwynd, Staffordshire MSS., Vol. III., p. 61, *ibid.*) Elsewhere it appears to have been given by Roger le Wets (Waite), of Rickarscote. (Chetwynd MSS., "Staffordshire," Vol. III.)

THE STAFFORD ESCHEAT.

TEMPORE H. 8.

CHAPTER HOUSE BOOKS $\frac{A}{8.}$
 $\frac{6.}{6.}$ DE HEREDITATE COMIT. STAFFORD.¹

		<i>li.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
	The Manor of Stafforde at	xxxi.	xv.	x. ob
Staff.	Rent called Stafforde Rent	lxxiii.	xii.	iiii. ob.
	The Lordship of Mawdelay	xlvi.	xvi.	ob.
Salop.	Hooldiche nigh Newe Castell	lxvi.		viii.
	The proufite and revenues of Forbrigge	iiii.	xvi.	ii. de.
Cestr.	The Lordship of Tillington	xviii.		.
	The Rents of Assize and tenement at			
	Will in Dodington.. ..	vii.	xiii.	viii.
	The Fearme of the Lordship of Pak-			
	ington	iiii.	vi.	viii.
	The Lordship of Eyton at	xvii.	xv.	i. ob. qp.
	The Lordship of Blymynhill at	vi.		xxiii. ob.
	The office of feodary in the County of			
	Staff.	ii.		
	The revenues of Dorlaston	v.	iii.	vii. q.
	Rents and tenements in Maclesfield			
	in Cheshire.. ..	viii.	xvi.	vi.
	Rents and tenements in Tentenshall			
	and Barlastoon	xxix.	viii.	iiii.
	Rents and Fearmes in Cristelton in			
	Cheshire	vi.		xxiii. ob.
	Rents and Fearmes in Bruggenorth in			
	Shropshire	vi.		v.
	Summa ..	cciiiixxiii.	li. xv.s. ix.d.	ob.

¹ This estimate of the Staffordshire escheat of the Duke of Buckingham, made by special authority in the King's behalf (H. VIII), is from the collection now in the Record Office, Fetter Lane. Some few entries belong rather to Cheshire and Shropshire, and they were returned under Staffordshire perhaps because held as of the manor of Castra or Barony of Stafford. So lower down the survey gives the Knights' fees, but not all, some remaining in the Treasury at Thornbury. The

The towne of Stafforde is a propur and a fair towne, whiche The Towne. contynually afortime harth bene the Kinggs towne. Albe it the

estates named are the same as are mentioned in the long series of Stafford escheats, but the valuations are not always the same, nor in this do they quite agree with those made in the Greater Chartulary, p. 236, now in the library of Lord Bagot at Blithfield; a variation not surprising, because probably resulting from accidents in long intervals of time. It is notable that of the items, the largest is that known as the Stafford Rent, marked in this Royal Valuation at £73 12s. 4½d., and in the above named Great Chartulary at Blithfield at £79 14s. 3½d. respectively. In the same two documents the two values of Stafford manor are given as £31 15s. 5½d., and £34 14s. 0½d., and of the profits and revenues of Forbrigge as £4 16s. 2d. and 81s. respectively.

The object of the Survey seems to have been also to inform the King as to the personal advantages which this escheat might afford him whether for residence or sport. And accordingly, to recommend them to him, it is affirmed that not only was Stafford a "propur and fair towne, and had always been the King's towne, altho' the benefits in it and the lands lying aboute it had been the late Duke of Buckingham's."

This Survey here attests what documentary evidence abundantly shows, that these Dukes of Buckingham had succeeded in completing the territorial circle which hemmed in the borough on all sides, but which had been originally intercepted by the King's Pool, afterwards King's Mead. This pool a royal grant before their first Duke's time had secured to an Earl of Stafford.

In a subsequent part of the Survey, the Duke is said to have had the patronage of the Royal Chapel of St. Mary's, so that these two great additions of King's Chapel and King's Pool had at last enabled the Dukes of the Stafford race to realize what had been a part only of the thwarted pretension or ambition of the Barons of Stafford of the twelfth and thirteenth century, for such they were, as abundantly appears from the Stafford charters. The King's Pool may have been a Royal favor, but the King's Royal Chapel of St. Mary's had become the first Duke's by exchanging a valuable estate originally of his family in Warwickshire, as detailed by its historian Dugdale. The exchange was a fair equivalent, for a subsequent Act of Resumption, which interfered with many Royal grants, left the transfer effected by the exchange intact. (5 Rot. Parl., p. 309.)

The Survey proceeds to describe the park as well set with oak, and with good herbage, and having a part partitioned off with a paling, the whole being about three miles in circumference, and containing 400 acres, with four hundred deer; whereas the other forfeited Stafford Park of Madeley, though about the same size, had only one hundred.

The description in the Survey of the Castle itself, furnishes more minute details than can be learnt from the agreement for its construction; a copy is preserved in the volume of Stafford MSS. at Blithfield, intituled *Registrum factum Memorandum*, etc. That volume professes to be the collection of Edward Lord Stafford, and its date is 1568. Mr. Hamper, who arranged the Stafford MSS. for Lord Bagot (he and Mr. Pipe Wolverston had previously examined them), gives a heading to this particular memorandum to the following effect: "The French mason for the building of Stafford Castle in this art, as his note is."

The reader may now compare the mason's contract with the description in the Royal Survey of the complete Castle as it stood at the time of the survey, say some hundred and eighty years later, and if any discrepancy appear, may he not regard

benefits in the same and landes lying aboute it wer the late Duke of Bukkingh^{ms}.

it as arising from what so frequently occurs at the present day, a departure by mutual consent from the terms of a specification, or from alterations subsequently made?

He may also compare it with the particulars of the Duke's other castle of Thornbury, which are extant amongst the State Papers (*see* "Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Society," Vol. VIII., pp. 40-43). We have no evidence, in spite of the remarks of the Commissioners as to the conveniences for royal hunting afforded by the escheated Castle of Stafford, that the King ever visited it. To Thornbury Castle, however, the King certainly went, and it was at one time also the residence of his daughter, the Princess Mary (*ibid.*). It is headed, "the House or Castell of Thornbury." Summing up the several spaces it occupied, the inquest tells us that "this Castle, the buildings, courts, orchards, and gardens, are walled about with a wall of stone, part ruined and decayed in divers places thereof, containing by estimation twelve acres of ground or thereabouts." It too had its chapel, entered from the great hall. The Duke and his family had used the adjacent parish church of Thornbury occasionally, to which they had access by a fair cloyster, at the end of which was a fair room with a chimney and window, which room (or pew) looked into the said church; and there the Duke sometimes used to hear service in the same church;" which I cite the rather because the chapel and church remind one of those at the Castle near Stafford, and of their use by the same owner perhaps. As to the dimensions of the two castles respectively, the two surveys give a clear superiority to that of Thornbury, whose western front even was about two hundred and five feet in extent, and the towers with their battlements sixty-seven feet complete; their intermediate parts, it is supposed, half the height of a tower (*ibid.*). The badge of the Staffords, the antelope and knot, were more conspicuous at Thornbury than at Maxstoke, another of the unfortunate Duke's castles. At Thornbury the Duke and Duchess had inhabited the south wing; from a later survey in the reign of Elizabeth, it appears that a great hall then adjoined the kitchen and buttery at the east end of the north wing, and at the end of the great hall was a chapel, particularly described in the Survey. It had been large enough to dine between five and six hundred adherents of the Duke in 1507, that is before the latter began the subsequent building (*ibid.*). Leland, "Collectanea," Vol. II., p. 658, gives the above specification of Thornbury, 5 Elizabeth.

To return to Stafford Castle. The reader will note the words of the Commissioners as to the town, it "continually aforetime harth been the Kingg's towne," although the benefits, &c., were the late Duke's. It seems not doubtful that the Staffords had treated the town as their own; see the note of Matthew Worswick, Stafford MSS. Wors., fo. 233, where he says that Ralph first Earl appeared to have treated the borough as his. A Baron Stafford (Robert) had not only claimed the "Burgus" as his, but the Church beneath the Castle, and had given this to the Abbey of Stone; a jury subsequently negatived the right. ("Staffordshire Collections," Vol. IV., p. 113.) A Borough Seal placed the Stafford knots above the Royal Lion. (See App. 137.) The Commissioners note the defects of the Stafford Castle, the buttery and pantry below are without partition, there is a defect in the lead covering the roof, as well as the floors, and the embatteling requires pointing and lime.

The document contains some items which the reader finds here printed in the Survey; not properly belonging to the history of the Manor of Castre, they will be passed over in silence; but with the ecclesiastical structures this will not be the case, for all will be noted that stood within the Manor of Castre in whichever

Nigh and ymmediately adjoynnyng to the said towne ther is a goodly parke well sette with ooke and spēally good herbage in the same, in which parke ther is a perticon with pale. And in the myddes thereof the Castell standeth nygh a myle from the towne, upon soo goodly an height that all the country may be seen xx.^{li} or xxx.^f myles aboute. And oon way a man may see to the Kinggs Lordeship of Caurs in Wales xxx. myles from thennes, and an other way to the Kinggs honor of Tutbury. The said Castell is properly buylded all uniforme and of oon facon devised in lenght w^oute any ynner co^rte, and at aither ende twoe to^rs and oon in the myddes on the south side, the 'nbatelling being trussed furth upon corbelles. The hall sette on height in the myddes adjoynnyng therunto at the over ende a great chamb^r and w^t in the same be vi. other little chambers every of thaym having a draught and a chymnay, that is to wete in aither of the twoe towres at that ende iii. chambres. In the towr of the south side be other iii. ch^mbs like to the other. And at the nether ende of the hall is a surveing place, and withoute that the ii. towres at that ende—and in aither of thaym iii. chambers like to the other in proporcion w^t draughts and chymnays.

And under the hall at the nether ende is the ketchin and larder hous. And directely under the hall is the buttery and pantery, not well devised for want of particons—and directely under the grete chamber is the seller. This said Castell harth a good rooff covered thorowly w^t leade, howe be it therein be many

of its members; but this dispenses with any mention of the Grey Friars that stood across the river in the northern Faubourg, and the Royal foundation of the St. Mary's, both of which were then in the borough. What the Survey itself says of that latter Royal Chapel will be read with interest; its antiquity as a foundation has been alluded to, but the present edifice furnishes no *indicia*, I am told, of the antiquity which certainly belonged to the foundation.

The survey before us points out to the Sportsman-Monarch the advantages of his new acquisition for the pursuit of his favourite pastime. Henry had struck down, as Charles the Fifth had said, "the noblest Buck in all England;" and now the Commissioners invite the King to the slaughter of these the Duke's four hundred deer. In their midst stands, is suggested to him, "the Castell nigh a mile from the towne, upon so goodly an height that all the country may be seen xx. or xxx. miles aboute." The latter is the distance of another castle of poor Buckingham, Caurs, once the Corbets', from whom an eventual heiress had brought it to a Baron de Stafford. Buckingham's attainder had conveyed it too to the King. In another direction the King might behold his own Lancastrian Castle of Tutbury. Then the Castle is said to be a "propur" castle, although "little and without courts, properly buylded, all uniforme, and of one fashion," with two towers at each end and another in the middle, five in all, thre chambers in each tower, and each with a draught and chimney."

The Parke
and Castell.

defawts, and also in the floores, and the said inbatelling wolde be better pointed and filled with lyme, which with weder is worne away.

Nere adjoynnyng to the said Castell is an old Chapell, and besides the same there is [a] fair lodge, buylded of tymber and an other kechin ther buylded alsoe of tymber. Then a good distaunce from the same is a fair large barne, and in the same is remaynning mych oolde tymber parte or all mete for a stable. Considering that this little Castell and the membres aboute hit is from Tutbury upon xv. myles and from Lichefelde xiii. or xiiii. myles, standing pleasauntely nigh mych game for hunting, having propur towne of Staff. within a myle of hit mete for lodging of myche people, it is thought hit should be right pleasaunte for the King whenne it shall please his grace to make his progress into thoos pts in grece tyme.¹

The said parke conteynneth aboute nigh iii. myles, having in hit four hundreth dere.

The parke of Mawdelay planted with many great ooks xii. myles from Stafford, conteynneth aboute iii. myles, having in it an c. dere.

The Manrode.

The numbre of the manrode ther, cl.²

¹ Grese, deer season. Halliwell cites Ipomydon, and says, "Deer or game in grass or grease-time." So R. Brunne has:—

"Whan Harald or the kyng wild come thider eftsons

In the tyme of *gese*" (perhaps for (*grese*?)) "to take them venysones."

When the grass failed, the deer fed upon a less favourable food in the coverts.

Hart of Greece is Gutch's reading to the poem of Robin Hood and the Curtall Fryer, where Robin Hood asks:—

"Which of you can kill a buck,

Or which can kill a doe,

Or who can kill a hart of *Greece*

Five hundred foot him fro'."

And Gutch says, "This means, perhaps, no more than a fat hart for the sake of a quibble between Greece and grease." And so in Nare's "Glossary," edited by Halliwell and T. Wright, it is said, "A hart, capon, &c., of Greece, meant a fat one; it seems therefore that it should be of *grease*, from *graisse*, French; and so Percy explains it." If so, "time of grece" would mean when the deer are in good condition; and yet the stanza in Robin Hood and the Curtall Fryer, which contemplates a single occasion, seems to suppose a difference then between buck and hart of Greece. The deer were, according to age, called by different names (*see* Manwood's "Forest Laws," ch. 4, s. 5, according to which also "the time of 'grace' of a Hart or Buck beginneth at Midsommer day, and lasteth till Holyrood Day," i.e., the 14th September.

² How profitable land held in chivalry might be to the superior Lord, may be inferred from the incidents of aids, reliefs, primer seisin, wardship and marriage, fines on alienation, escheats involving reversions to the superior Lord, as described

John Aston, Knight, holdeth ii. knights' fees in Milwiche and Knights' fees. Tixall.¹

The Lady Stauneley holdeth iii. knights' fees in Aston and Burweston.²

in our historical and juridical books. The Survey set down the Manrode (Manrede) homagers or vassals at one hundred and fifty, that is for the whole of the Duke's estates in Staffordshire. No doubt the greater proportion would proceed from his manor surrounding Stafford. Next follow the names of the Duke's Staffordshire servants, who held their lands by military service, with the number of fees which each held. This list enables the reader to compare the state of this part of the Duke's Staffordshire estate with its corresponding description in the older feudaries. He will find some knights' fees originally the Staffords', no longer theirs, a decrease probably to be explained by their having been detached to form part of the appanages of younger sons, or perhaps the Duke may have had tenants of Staffordshire fees holding from him important estates also by military service in Gloucestershire, to whom the closing sentence may be applicable, i.e., "divers other Knights ther be remayning in the Treasoury at Thornebury." He will find two knights' fees, not originally Stafford fees, those of Acton Trussel (in. Dom. B., the Bishop's) and Hamstal Ridware (in D. B., Earl Roger's): Lists are to be seen in the Feodaries known as the "Liber Niger" and "Kirkby's Quest;" and the "Testa de Nevile" alone contains five, but not all complete. A considerable diminution may be noted from the Staffordshire number mentioned in the first of those Feodaries (*see* General Wrottesley's analysis, "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. I., pp. 145-239, 174, 228), where several losses are mentioned as having occurred before the date of the "Liber Niger." Settlements upon younger sons may account for diminution occurring in later times, and this excited most attention in reference to those who, after litigation with the Erdeswicks, successfully established their right as heirs male, apparently to Bramshall, Coppenhal, Hide, &c., and who are now chiefly represented by Lord Willoughby De Broke, it is believed.

¹ *Knights' fees.*—John Aston, Knight. He seems to have been Sheriff in 1500, 1508, and 1513. The first Sheriff of the family was Sir Thomas, 1370. Six of his descendants held the office from father to son almost to the reign of James I. The next head of the family, Walter, was the first Lord Aston of Forfar. Sir John, the Knight mentioned in this survey, married Joan, daughter and heir of William Lyttleton, of Frankley, and John died not long after the survey, A.D. 1528.

² The Lady Stanley was daughter and heiress of Sir James Lee, of Aston, Burston, and Walton. She died 1525, having long survived her husband, Sir Humphrey Stanley, Knight and Banneret, who died 1504. (*See* pedigree, Salt MS. 80, p. 18.) Erdeswick knew the descent, not unnaturally, as his own manor at Sandon was not far off, but he had unsuccessfully striven to find how those places, all in the Stafford fief, had come to be divided and then united, and how the Lees had become possessed of them. But the Heveninghams were already Lords in Erdeswick's time, having inherited them through the daughter and eventually sole heir of John Stanley, son and heir of the above-mentioned Lady Stanley. "There was," says Chetwynd (MS. Firehill Hundred), "anciently a chapel in this Burweston, said to be built on the place where Rufinus, younger son to King Wulfhere, flying from his father's fury, was found and suffered martyrdom, upon which account it was much visited by devout pilgrims in former ages, but in this last has been demolished. The tythe of corn was first purchased out of the Crown, 2 Elizabeth, by John Erdeswick, Gent., and descended to his grandson, Sampson Erdeswick, of Hartley Green, now living

The Lorde Brooke holdeth a knight's fee in Bromeshall.¹

David Owen and Andrew Windsor, Knight, hoolde a knight's fee in Mawdelay alsoe² (Ulfac).

Will^m Basset holdeth ii. knights' fees in Blore and Grendon.³

John Savage, Knight, holdeth a knight's fee in Teen.⁴

John Blounte holdeth ii. knights' fees in Hopton and Teen.⁵

Lewes Bagott holdeth a knight's fee in Baggotts Bromeley.⁶

Simon Harcourte holdeth iii. knights' fees in Sharesnull, Sardon, and Coven.⁷

(*i.e.*, 1680, *circ. temp.* Walter Chetwynd), who about twenty years since sold them to several occupants."

¹ The Lord Brooke.—His fee was Bramshall. It had been held as an inheritance by Sir James Stafford, of Sandon, Knight, and was treated as descendible to the latter's sole daughter and heiress, wife of Thomas Erdeswick. The male Stafford heir, however, contested the Erdeswick right. Finally, *temp.* Hen. VII., the male line claiming through a second house of Bramshall Staffords, recovered this and other estates from the Erdeswicks. These lands became afterwards vested in the Gravilles and Willoughby de Brooke. ("Erdeswicke Survey," by Harwood, pp. 511-12; see also "Rot. Parl.," Vol. VI., pp. 325-6.) The Lord Brooke in the survey was Willoughby de Brooke, who died almost at the date of this survey, *i.e.*, A.D. 1522. (See Sir Harris Nicholas' "Hist. Peerage.")

² David Owen and Andrew Windsor. Who the former was is not clear, but in Erdeswick's time Madeley Ulfac was held by Lord Windsor, whom he presumed "to have it by descent from Lord Mountjoy." Lord Windsor was the son of Lord Andrew Windsor, afterwards first Baron Windsor. Dugdale tells us from the mouth of the son how the father had been forced suddenly by his royal guest at Stanwell, King Henry VIII., to exchange this manor for the possessions of the recently dissolved Abbey of Bordesley. The patent for the exchange of his patrimony had been already prepared, and without his knowledge or wish.

³ William Bassett, afterwards Sir William Basset, Knight, whose son of the same name was Lord of Blore and Grendon in the time of S. Erdeswicke.

⁴ John Savage, Bart.—His fee is Nether Teen, or Tayne, as Erdeswick writes it. Both Over and Nether Tayne, originally estates of the Bekes, passed by an heiress to Sir Robert Swinnerton, Knight, whose daughter and heiress married first Sir Raufe Peshall, and secondly, Sir John Savage. After long enmity between the issues of the two marriages, it was agreed that each should take one of the two Taynes.

⁵ John Blounte, afterwards Knight.—He held by virtue of the compromise mentioned in Note 5, Over Tayne, but again the family seems to have been at variance, for by devise the estate was carried to the female rather than the male line, "the cause," says Erdeswick, "being unknown."

⁶ Lewes Bagot held Bagot's Bromley Fee.—He was pro corpore Henry VII., and Sheriff 12 Henry VIII. A family in which the Sherifffdom was very usual in various eras of our history.

⁷ Simon Harcourt.—This would seem to have been the person afterwards Sir Simon Harcourt, Knight, son of Christopher and Joan, daughter and heiress of Sir Miles Stapilton. (Salt MS. 80, p. 40.) The Harcourts appear to have held these fees, originally the heritage of Joan, from the reign of Edward III., but the alliances

The Lady Gressley holdeth a knight's fee in Colton.¹

John Essex holdeth two knights' fees in Staunton.²

Thomas Swynarton holdeth a knight's fee in Swynarton.³

Rauff Congrave holdeth a knight's fee in Stretton.⁴

The heires of Clapton holde the vth part of a knight's fee in long ore (Longnor).⁵

Maister Heer (Veer) holdeth ii. pts of a knight's fee in Acton Trussell.⁶

The Lady Cotton holdeth the vith parte of a knight's fee in Hampstall Ridware.⁷

Robert Swynarton holdeth a knight's fee in Bruchurste.⁸

of Harcourt and Shreshull have puzzled very good genealogists, seemingly. (*See* Mr. S. P. Wolverston's *Notes* to the last volume of "Nichols' Leicestershire," p. 520, and cited last edition of *Erdeswick*, p. 163, in notes.)

¹ The Lady Gressley.—This was Benedict Vernon, I think, of Haddon, co. Derby. Her husband, Sir William Gressley, Knight, was then just dead. He died in 1521, leaving no issue by this lady, but several brothers. Her holding the fee of Colton implies some family settlement.

² John Essex.—*Erdeswick* says, Standon, since King Edward III.'s time, came to Essex of Berkshire, from whom the last Sir Thomas Essex, Knight, sold it to Vise. This family also exchanged patrimonial estates with Henry VIII. for Abbey lands. They were amongst the first created Baronets, but according to Lysons had become extinct.

³ Thomas Swynnerton.—A Sir Thomas Swynnerton died 1530. He had married Alice, daughter of a Harcourt.

⁴ Raufe Congreve.—This was Ralph Congreve, son of Richard Congreve and . . . Harpur, of Rushal. Ralph's wife was . . . *Erdeswick*. ("Staff. Hist. Coll.," Vol. V., Part II., p. 83.)

⁵ Clapton, heiress of (or Clopton).—Here *Erdeswick* is more minute in his statement ("Erdeswick," by Harwood, p. 118 and p. 168) than Dugdale, who does not in his "Warwickshire" show how, through Clopton's heiress, the Staffordshire estates of Ashley, Water Eaton, and Longnor came to the Harewells; note, however, a difference. The Royal Survey here values the Longnor interest as the fifth part of a knight's fee, and *Erdeswick* cites a deed which makes it to be the fourth part.

⁶ Master Veer (Vere), two-thirds of a fee in Acton Trussell.—John Vere, fourteenth Earl of Oxford, who married Elizabeth, daughter and eventual heiress of Edward Trussell, and yet the title is not given. (*See Erdeswick's Survey*, p. 185.) Acton Trussell was sold lately by an Earl of Oxford.

⁷ The Lady Cotton.—Her fee being in Hampstal Ridware at the date of the Royal Survey, who can she be but Catharine, widow of Thomas of Hampstal Ridware (?).

⁸ Robert Swynarton.—His fee was Brockhurst, once a spot of more importance. (*See* Canon Bridgeman's Blymhill Parish, "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. II., p. 106.) This Robert Swynnerton would seem to have been of the family of Swynnerton of Eccleshale (*ibid.*, p. 112), and indeed the Robert who married a daughter of the house of Littleton of Pilaton Hall. Robert's son Edward sold his interest in

The Prior of Stoone¹ and Robert Massy hoolde a knight's fee in Walton.

Mighill Selman and Thomas Banastre hoolde a knight's fee in Eyton and Horsley.²

Willm Chetwyn holdeth ii. knights' fees and di. in Mitton, Ingestre, and Gretewiche.

The same Will^m holdeth a knight's fee in Salt some tyme oon Ive and other tenñts of Salt.

The said Will^m holdeth a knight's fee in Salt aforesaid for the marriage of Lady Elizabeth.³

The Lorde Barnes holdeth iii. knights' fees in Hawghton.⁴

Divers other knights ther be remaynnyng in the Tresoury at Thornebury.⁵

The Deanery of Stafforde at xxiiii.*li.* whiche ever harth bene Capella Regia and is privileged accoordingly. And albe it the

Blymhill, but excepted "Brackelhurst," which was passed by a fine to Blackmore (*ibid.*, p. 117).

¹ The Prior of Stone and Robert Massey.—How these two became associated as holders of a Knight's fee in Walton is not clear. The Prior was probably the last one named in the list given by Bishop Tanner as succeeding in 1480, that is, Robert Wile. At the time of the dissolution, William Smyth was Prior.

² Michael Selman and Thomas Banastre.—A fine of 1443-4 associates the former name with Orsloew ("Staffordshire Collections," Vol. IV., pp. 46 and 47), and Canon Bridgeman's suggestion appears well founded, that the right of Selman sprang from a marriage with a Moreton heiress. A Richard Selman appears often as in the Commissions for Staffordshire. (See Index to Brewer's "Letters," &c., *temp.* H. VIII.). Banastre, a name of Stafford tenants elsewhere, and tragically connected with the death of the second Duke, appears connected with Orsloew in the "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. IV., p. 43.

³ This William Chetwynd is thus spoken to in the "Chetwyndorum Stemma" (now *pense* his descendant the Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot at Ingestre), "Will. Chetwynd de Ingestre, 5 H. VII., *obit.* 38 H. VIII. He married, 5 H. VII., Elizabeth fil. Johannis Ferrers de Tamworth Castle." (See Add. to p. 112.)

⁴ The Lord Barnes (Berners) held three knights' fees in Houghton. Why he did Erdeswick professes ignorance. This Peer is John Lord Berners, who was at the siege of Therouenne, and held high place in the esteem of Henry VIII., for whom he translated Froissart's Chronicles. He was of the Bourchier family, also closely connected with Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, under whom he held Houghton, which may help to explain his holding a Stafford knight's fee. There is no doubt that this Lord Barnes was Lord Berners. It seems singular that the same double spelling or pronunciation occurred with respect to the quaint authoress, or at least reputed authoress, of part, if not all, of nearly our oldest book on heraldry, that is, of the treatise intitled Hawking (Hunting) and Cootarmurys, by Dame Juliana Barnes or Berners; a *rapprochement* which might lead some to identify the blue stocking Prioresse as a member of his Lordship's family.

⁵ Compare the above with the more numerous knights' fees in the Inq. p. m. Thomas, Earl, 16 R. II., pt. 1, No. 27.

Duke was patron, yet the King was founder in somyche as the preiste of the Coledge take in thair masses daily for the King this Colec: Deus in cujus manus, etc. And also in the same Colledge in many place appereth the oolde armes of Eingland. The Dean ther geveth xii. litle prebendes.¹

An hous of Augustyne freres.²

An hous of the Grey frerys.

A Chauntery in Litchfield called Ratcliffe Chauntery.³

Foundations
and ad-
vowsons.

A donative of St. John Baptiste in Stafford⁴

.. ..
li.
x.

¹ The Duke became, as mentioned *supra*, p. 18, patron by exchange with King Henry VI. Ashmole noted the Royal arms in St. Mary's before the Revolution. Bishop Tanner's "Notitia Monastica," ed. Nasmyth, says that there were fourteen prebendaries with the Dean. It is evident, however, from the above, they were but thirteen altogether. Domesday mentions the same King having had thirteen (*canonicos prebendarios*), but speaks of fourteen as the number of *Priests* (*presbyteri*) in Stafford. The fourteenth probably was the Incumbent of St. Chad's. Independently of the Dean, the "Valor Ecclesiasticus" only adduces twelve prebends.

² With extensive rights, a feudal lord had co-extensive responsibilities; not only was he an hereditary soldier bespoken for the defence of the country, but he was bound to protect his tenants, and to provide for their spiritual wants. So we find that independently of the two religious establishments just alluded to as within the borough itself, one of which, the Grey Friars (*supra*, p. 100, in note), was also a Stafford foundation, the attainted Duke had four others within the Manor of Castra. One was a house of Augustin Friars. Leland ("Itin.," Vol. VII., p. 28) had said of the Stafford monuments of alabaster in Stone Abbey, that after its suppression, "the images that lay upon them were caryed to the Freers Augustines in Fordebridge, *alias* Stafford Grene, *cis flumen*. And in this Freres hong a Petigre of the Staffordes." Dugdale in his "Baronage" introduces these Austin Friars as follows: "Bearing a venerable respect to the order of Friars Hermits of St. Augustin, Ralph Earl of Stafford settled them within the borough of Stafford about the twenty-sixth year of Edward III., for the health of his soul, as also for the souls of Katherine and Margaret his wives, and for the soul of Sir Humphrey Hastang, Knight; and likewise for the good estate of King Edward III. (*supra*, p. 96 n.). It would show an establishment (settlement) of these friars in Stafford itself, before they were through the Earl established in florbrugge." In a subsequent patent this Earl is nevertheless said to have founded the Priory in the latter place (*supra*, p. 96).

³ A Stafford foundation this was not, therefore it must have been simply patronage. The "Valor Ecclesiasticus" made *temp.* Henry VIII., fo. ed., 1817, p. 141, mentions the above Chantry as founded by Magister George Radclyff, formerly Canon. The value annually from lands and tenements in Lychfield, Morghul, and Stretham was £4. (Ashmolean MSS., fo. 855.) The rental gives £2 14s. 4d. as the sum, and was then held by Richard Tatton. George Radclyff had been Treasurer of Lichfield 1436; Archdeacon of Chester in 1440; so that he was a cotemporary of Humfrey Duke of Buckingham, who called him his clerk. ("Gent. Mag.," Vol. LXIII., p. 402.)

⁴ Secondly, a donative of St. John the Baptist, which has been already spoken to.

	<i>li.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The peonage (<i>sic</i>) of Brawdeley (Bradeley) in the County of Staff. at	xx.		
The personage of Church Eton, the nomi- nation to the King, the presentation to th' Abbas of Poolesworth in Warwick- shir or Leicestershire.			
The foundation of the Priory of Stooene.			
There is a wood called Pakkington wood being a yong spring exteemed in grooce and as offers have bene made for hit at	xx.		A woode.
Th' office of Stewarde lately occupied by the Earl of Shrowsbury during pleasur ¹		c.	Offices.
Th' office of Recevoi ^r occupied by James Nowell, deputed therunto by Thomas Magnus and Will'm Walweyne ² ..		c.	

Robert de Stafford, and then to the Abbey of Kenilworth by King Henry II., as "ecclesiam S. Nicholai in Castello de Stafford." Subsequently some contract arrangement restored it to its ancient lord, for it is not mentioned as in any way dependent upon the Kenilworth Abbey, but charters describe it as belonging to the fee and donation of Robert de Stafford; and the two Priories later had their reciprocal rights readjusted on payment of pensions. The "Valor Ecclesiasticus," p. 119, describes it as the Free Chapel "infra Castrum Stafford."

¹ After Henry Stafford the second Duke of Buckingham had been seised and put to death, the office of "bailiff of Stafford Grene" was granted to Robert Wortley for life; that of the office of keeper of the park of Stafford to Thomas Belle for life; whilst grant was made to Thomas Wortley, Knight of the Royal body, of the important office of Steward of the lands of the late Duke in Staffordshire generally, as also of Master of the Hunt there for life. (9 Rep. Dep. Keep. of Records, App. II., p. 69.) But when the previous Duke's attainder had been reversed in favour of the last Duke of the Stafford race, these appointments would become his. He appointed his kinsman, George Earl of Shrewsbury, Knight of the Garter, 1588, who had been with Henry VIII. to the Field of the Cloth of Gold, and was also a witness in the Royal divorce case against Queen Catherine, notably a favourite of the King, but at the same time grandson by his mother of Humfrey first Duke of Buckingham. A special clause in the Statute 14 H. VIII., s. 73, preserved to the Earl the benefit of the above stewardship notwithstanding the attainder of his relative; who acted as steward for the Duke in the other counties over which his estates extended does not appear in this Staffordshire Survey. Some of them may also have been Earls, and therefore perhaps it was that Anthony Stafford, the author of "Honor and Vertue" triumphing over the grave exemplified in the Life and Death of Henry Lord Stafford (A.D. 1640), said he had heard that Henry's ancestors had been "so great nobles that they had had even Earls for stewards."

² James Nowell (Noel) was deputy receiver; those who deputed him were Thomas Magnus and William Walweyne. James Nowell held also, the Survey tells us, the office of Porter of the Castle, connected with the Harcourts, and related to Martin Noel, who founded the almshouses at Stafford.

	<i>li.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Th' office of Bailly of the Liberties occupied by Will ^m Harwoode yeoman of the Corowne ¹	lx.	viii.	
Th' office of porter of the Castell of Stafford occupied by the said James Nowell at ²	xl.		
Th' office of Parker of Stafford occupied by an under kepar set at	ix.	viii.	
Th' office of the parker of Mawdeley lately occupied by Hugh Boughhey at ³ . . .	lx.	viii.	

Wawens Wotton cum aliis.

The Lordship of Wawens Wotton at . .	xxvi.		vi.
The Lordship of Sheldon at	xxix.	iii.	i. qu.
The Lordship of Salleford at	viii.		viii.
Officium feodarii in Com' Warwic' . .	ii.		

Summa . . lxiii.li. iii.s. iii.d. qu.

Lately
alienated to
Sir William
Compton,
Knight.

	<i>li.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The Lordship of Tisehov w ^t the manor at . .	xlvi.	xix.	iii.
The Lordship called Wolforde Magna . .	xliii.	vi.	viii.
The Lordship called Wolforde perva at . .	iiii.	iii.	iiii.

Summa . . lxvii.li. ix.s. iii.d.

The Advowson of the Church of Sheldon.

Woods.

	<i>li.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
A woode of great tymber called Hathill conteynnyng ii. acres valoured at		c.	
A woode of underwoode called Rigemoor w ^t a lane conteynning iii. acres lately soolde			
A woode of tymber called Lady woode conteynnyng iiii. acres valoured at	xx.		

¹ Bailiff of the liberties occupied by William Harwoode, Yeoman of the Crowne, 60s. 8d. This salary was of the same amount as that of the Bailiff of Wawenswotton and Sheldon.

² Porter of the Castle, occupied by the said James Noel, at 4s. It is strange to find the first restored Baron holding the office of Constable and porter of Stafford Castle, A.D. 1532. See Doyle's "Official Baronage," Vol. III., p. 390.

³ Parker of Stafford, occupied by an underkeeper at 9s. 8d., whereas the corresponding office at Madeley had been lately occupied by Hugh Boughhey at 60s. 8d.

	<i>li.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
The woode in the parke valoure at	xiii.	vi.	viii
A woode called Beret woode conteynnyng iii. acres valoured at		xl.	
A yong woode called Halstowe conteynnyng l. acres, the acre at v.s.	xxv.		
A woode called the v. acres valoured at ..		lx.	
Th' office of Bailly of Wawenswotton and Sheldon, occupied by Robert Ruddell, granted by patent during pleasur with the fee of		lx.	viii.

These estates were nearly all in Staffordshire, but the escheat at the death of William Earl of Stafford shows that he had died seised of 6 castles, 38 manors, 4 free burghs, 25 vills, and also lands in 24 other vills, 1 commote, 1 forest, 1 chace, 1 fishery, 1 pool, 1 seargeancy, 14 churches (advowsons), 1 chantry (advowson), 8 priories (patronage of), 28 courts leet, 200 courts, and 239½ knights' fees in services, all which were spread over 20 counties besides London. Such is the result of a rapid glance at these estates. They were afterwards augmented not merely by the purchase from the Comptons of Maxstoke Castle and the building almost completed of Thornbury Castle, but by the transfer to the second Duke of the remainder of the Bohun inheritance vacated by the failure of the other Royal Lancastrian line.¹

¹ The sequel of the History of the restored lords is not within the direct object of this paper, but a few words trace that of the Castle to our own time, and may interest the reader. He has seen in the text the condition of the Baronial Castle in the year 1524. We have a view, amongst the unpublished plates to "Shaw's History," of what it was at the close of the last century. Then nothing could be discerned standing but a part of the south wall. What had occurred to it in the interval? A Captain, a Lieutenant, and an Ancient, all three of the military company in Norwich, made a seven-weeks' journey through twenty-six counties in the year 1634, and visited, it appears, Staffordshire (*see* *Lensdowne MSS.*, 213, Art. 26). The narrator shows how from Eccleshall, in his own words, "we hasted to the shire towne, where we left neere a mile from the entrance of the towne, on a *mounted* hill, a strong and stately commanding Castle, somewhat ruinated; and by it, on the top of that hill, a fayre house, wherein liveth a good old lady (Lady Stafford), a most bountifull housekeeper." It is not necessary, if it were possible, to understand whether this good lady's house (she seems to have been the grandmother of the young lord, last of the male Bagot-Staffords) formed any part of the Castle, or on what side of the hill it stood, or in what contiguity. We see the site and the *mounted* hill, and accept the general fidelity of the description. The Castle was strong and commanding; it looked around on all sides, and beheld nothing more commanding than itself, unless perhaps Billington, or the distantly visible Wrekin. Somewhat

Thus a family which had so long aspired to the over lordship of the town and county, had after the lapse of four centuries by a

ruinated, too, it was. Injured not by war but by lapse of time and the want of necessary repairs. Edward Lord Stafford, in the date of a letter to the Earl of Shrewsbury, "rudely scribbled" at his Castle of Stafford in July, 27, 1603, uses depreciating words (*see* the unpublished papers in the Talbot Collection, calendared by Mr. Lodge in his "Illustrations of English History," at the end of the third volume). But his language is that of a discontented man exaggerating his misfortunes. The three travellers when they visited the Castle in 1634, little knew that its utter destruction would take place within a short decade of years. The defence, the courage and resolution of Lady Stafford, only served to postpone the event for a few weeks. The circumstances which attended it are recorded in contemporary correspondence, and recapitulated in all the topographical books (*see* Stebb. Shaw's "History General History," p. 63, and Mr. Harwood's edition of Erdeswick ed. 1844, pp. 163 and 154, in notes). Suffice it to say that the Castle was finally demolished by an order issuing from the Parliamentary Committee, dated the 22nd December, 1643. And so it long continued. The remains of the Baronial Castle appeared in 1813 to Mr. Nightingale as on a site originally levelled by art for the sake of embellishment. He thought the only portion of the Castle then standing to be the keep or stronghold placed upon an artificial mount of an oblong form, measuring 105 feet by 50. Mr. Jerningham had, a few years previously, cleared and raised the wall to a height of 12 feet. During the operation a variety of silver coins had been found, in general later than the reign of Ed. VI., together with a plain silver cross, a cannon ball, two small millstones, and the larger portion of a large font or piscina. Each angle of the keep was surmounted by small octangular towers, and these contained three separate rooms, with a fireplace in each, and also steps leading up to loopholes. The thickness of the walls was 8 feet, and they were so constructed that it was difficult to determine where the entrance was placed. A considerable part of the structure had been rebuilt by Mr. Jerningham, who then appeared inclined to complete it. The same writer added, "a deep foss or ditch surrounds the whole castle, and one side has the additional defence of a high rampart. South (?) from the castle stood the manor house, the usual residence of the noble family of Stafford. It was fortified by Ralph de Stafford in the reign of Ed. III., who had granted him permission to make castles of his¹ manor houses, both here and at Madeley. The area of this ancient seat is still easily discovered, by the moat which surrounds it remaining unfilled up."

Another writer, a few years after Mr. Nightingale, says, "some years ago, the walls of Stafford Castle were cleared of rubbish and made of an equal height by Mr. Jerningham, and in 1815 two new towers were built."

Amongst Mr. S. P. Wolverstan's notes to his copy in the British Museum of Stebbing Shaw's "History of Staffordshire," Vol. I., p. 99, is the following citation from a letter of Will. Hamper, the antiquary, dated Christmas Eve, 1817: "On the 15th October, Mrs. Hamper went with me on a visit of two or three days to our friends Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jerningham, at the *renovated* Castle of Stafford, where they had often invited us. You probably know that Mr. Edward J. (for his brother Sir George) is rebuilding the Castle after the style of Edw. III., when it was last

¹ An error of Mr. Nightingale, the Royal Patent (*supra* pp. 80-1) only authorises the Baron to "crenellate his 'manees' of Stafford and Madlee."

persistent ambition and by great and even royal alliances, succeeded at last. They had become Earls and Dukes, virtual lords of the town and its surroundings, patrons too, in the King's place, of his Royal Free Collegiate Church, and masters of his Royal vivary, to lose all again by repeated attainders in less than a single century! to lose more still, the then hereditary Constablership of England, the position really of last of the great feudal Barons of England as

erected. All the walls are raised 20 feet above the foundation, and two of the towers (with a suite of rooms between them) completely finished, at the expense of 1,100 waggon loads of stone from a quarry at Tixall. The plan of the building is something like the following, and the shaded lines will show what is rebuilt." He then gives a plan, like that which follows the plan in Clifford's "Tixall," but shows that the entrance to the Castle was at the west, *i.e.*, on the side looking away from Stafford towards Billington. The Jerninghams had fitted up the north-west tower-basement as a Chapel; whether or not because they had evidence to show it to have been the site of the ancient dissolved Free Chapel of St. Nicholas, does not appear.

The Knights' fees and most of the other estates were for ever lost to the Staffords, but by his Patent of the 23rd year of his reign (2nd Part), King Henry the VIII. granted to Henry Lord Stafford and Ursula his wife and the heirs of their bodies, not only the reversions to certain parcels of rents of the Manor of Stafford then outstanding in the hands of Robert Acton and Margery his wife, as also certain interests in the herbage and pannage of the park of Stafford after the death of Edward Littleton, who as well as the said R. Acton are described as gentlemen ushers of the King's Chamber, but his the King's Castle and Manor of Stafford and his Manor called Stafford Rents in the co. of Stafford, and all lands and tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, rents, reversions, and service in the town and borough of Stafford, and in the townships of Bradeley, Billington, Dunston, Copynhall, Stretton, Cokeslane, Burton, Wuttonsfields, Lichfield, Fulforde, and Richardscott, in the aforesaid county, and also all and all manner of woods, underwoods, pools, waters, fisheries, mills, vivaries, parks, deer warrens, bondmen, villeins, privileges, profits and commodities whatsoever to the said Castle and Manor and other the premises belonging, and the advowsons, nominations, and donations of the Free Chapel of St. Nicholas within the park of Stafford aforesaid. The said grant was further to cover all estates late of Roger Bradshaw within the Manor of Stafford, and all parcels and members thereof late of Richard Bassett, Lord of Drayton . . . and the said Patent similarly conferred upon Henry and Ursula the Manor of Essington, co. York. It embraced also a grant to them of the Courts Leet and Views of Frankpledge, &c., in the manor aforesaid; assize of bread and ale, broken tumbrel, pillory, gallows, stocks, waifs, strays, chattels of felons and fugitives, fairs, tolls, piccage, stallage, passage, fines, and amerciaments; and also all other liberties, franchises, customs and privileges which the Duke or any of his ancestors had used. A very important exception, however, overrode the whole grant. It reserved to the King all rents, farms, and tenements which he held in right of the Crown of England or in any other manner before the Duke's attainder, and also all Knights' fees, wards, marriages, reliefs, treasure trove, and all advowsons, &c., except that of the Free Chapel of St. Nicholas aforesaid.

well as that of Princes of the Blood.¹ Such is the consummation of which the above survey of the King's Commissioners furnishes us with a glimpse.

¹ The Articles of the challenge at the marriage of Prince Arthur had entitled this great subject, Edward Duke of Buckingham, Erle of Stafford, Hertford, Northampton, and Perche, Lord of Thornbury, Brecknock, Holderness, and Caure, Knight of the most noble Order of the Garter, and Great Constable of England. (Chetw. MS., Worswick's Notes, fol. 222.)

RESULTS OF FURTHER RESEARCH.

SINCE the above was printed, access to fresh sources has enabled the writer to render the paper somewhat less incomplete. The most important of these are the MSS. entitled "The Staffordshire Collections of Walter Chetwynd," in the possession of the Earl of Shrewsbury, and various original charters of the late Sir Thomas Phillipps, Bart., now at Thirlestane House, Cheltenham, as well as a list and notes of MSS. at Stafford Castle.

The above are cited here as "Chetw. Staff. Coll.," and as "Phillips' MSS.," and "Stafford MSS." Amongst the latter are some interesting notes of Matthew Worswick (cited here as Worswick's), who appears to have acted as Steward of the Stafford Estates about the middle of the seventeenth century; the same it is believed was Mayor of Stafford a little later. The name is well known in the annals of the borough. Sir Simon Degge speaks of a Thomas Worswick as a lawyer. His manuscript volumes in the Ashmolean and Salt libraries attest the proficiency as an antiquary of a previous Thomas Worswick. The Phillips Collection at Cheltenham numbered 2994 contains fifteen documents concerning Rickerscote; one of them is an Extent, the writing of which is unfortunately so pale as to be illegible. Of the fourteen others, three relating also to Rickerscote have been printed in the "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. VIII., Part I., and the remaining eleven appear either as transcript or abstract in these pages. These and the other additional references serve to identify names, already mentioned, as those of Bailiffs and Chief Magistrates of the adjacent borough, and do not otherwise need excuse, for the documents hitherto brought elsewhere to bear upon the various subjects have been fewer than they might have been, and have been used to establish conclusions which further research shows to be fallacious.

The paragraphs transcribed verbatim in the note below are from Matthew Worswick's notes, collected "out of the Records of Stafford Castle;" the folio is cited as transcribed in Chetwynd's "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. II., p. 159, *et seq.*¹ The entries, sometimes hasty, illspelt, and very concise, are printed as found.

¹ Herveius Bagott and Millzant his wife confirmed to Will. Wymer of Stafford the mill of Stafford which Robert de Stafford gave unto him *cum coopertura et herba vicar, a veter castelo (vinarii, a veteri castello)*, with warrant to constrayne men that were wont and ought to come to the said mill, that they shall not goe from it; and for this homage was done to the said Barron *in curia nostra apud Stafford*; this deed hath no date. (*Worsw.*, fo. 28.) On the next page great Courts of the Barony are mentioned as in both Bradeley and in Stafford.

Emmott the daughter of Nicholas Mile of the Castle of Stafford grants to Nicholas Baron of Stafford certain land in exchange within the towne of Stafford. (*Worsw.*, fo. 19.)

Richard the sonn of Peeter granteth to Edmund Barron Stafford his land that hee had in the towne of the *Castle of Stafford*. Dated att the Castle of Stafford, anno Regis Edw. xx. (*Ibid.*, fo. 20.)

Walter Attebruck granteth to Edmund Lord Stafford one messuage and a croft leading from the Castle of Stafford towne to Billington, which is called the Beare Croft, in *Villa Castri. Staff.*, xxxiii. tertio (*sic*) Regis Edwd. (*Ibid.*, fo. 20.)

In the Domesday census Burton and Rickerscote figure in hidal measurement as the most important berewicks of the great Stafford estate of Bradeley,

Roger the son of Richard the Goldsmith grants to John Egg lands in Burton and Richarscote. (*Ibid.*, fo. 295.)

Thomas de Erdesweeke (*sic*) releases to John Wade and to Henry Donley all his right which he hath in Manerio de Amblecote *cum pertinentiis et cum omnibus tenementis que Johannes (p. Humfridus) de Stafford habuit de dono et feoffament Will. de Stafford Milit., avi sui qua descenderunt predict. Hump.*; amongst other places, in Stafford Castle, Billington, Richarscote, &c. (*Ibid.*, fo. 7.) (Chetw. Coll., Vol. II., at p. 172.)

King Edward in the 9th year of his reign over France, &c., grants to Ralph Barron of Stafford to build his Castle of Stafford with *stone and lyme*, and to make krenels in it. (See *supra*, pp. 80-1.) (*Ibid.*, fo. 26.)

Herveius Bagot grants to Ralph of Dilhorn all his lands called Billandbury in Billington.

John of Witehalle grants to Sir William of Caverswall certain lands in the fields of the Lees nere Billington.

Rich. domns de Caverswall grants *totum manerium et totam terram de Billembury* in Billington with all weffii, treffs, and west (waste) [quare to whom?].

Henry de Billington grants to Roger de Caverswall a half yard land in Billington by the payment of one pare of white gloves. (*Worsw.*, fo. 85.)

Roger de Caverswall had granted unto him by Richard of the Lees one half yard of land in Billington. (*Ibid.*, fo. 85.)

William Lord of Caverswall, Knight, gives to Roger Caverswall his brother a messuage with an orchard in Billington. (*Ibid.*, fo. 85.)

Richard de Leye grants to Roger de Caverswall one half yard land in the territory of Billington. (*Ibid.*, fo. 86.)

John Coyney of Weston grants to Roger de Caverswall all the land in the towne of Billington and Leys. (*Ibid.*, fo. 86.)

Thomas de Reynis gives to William Lord of Caverswall three yards land and a halfe in the towne of Billington, with releife wards and escheats. (*Ibid.*, fo. 86, 87, 88.)

Thomas the sonn of Robert Maule of Littywood grants to John of Pilchstocke (*sic*) three places of land in the towne of Littywood in the fee of Billington, *decimo sexto* Edw. III. (*Ibid.*, fo. 100.)

William de Caverswall grants to the Barron of Stafford his land and tenements in Lonedale in Billington. (*Ibid.*, fo. 101.)

William the sonn of Philip of Chetwynd grants to Ralph Erle of Stafford all his lands in Billington. (*Ibid.*, fo. 101.)

Phillip of Strongeshall releases to Ralph Erle of Stafford all the lands which sometime were our (*sic*) Vivian de Chetwind in Billington Lea Leighes (*sic*), and in the towne and Castle of Stafford. (*Ibid.*, fo. 101.)

Ralph Erle of Stafford recovers seisin against William de Caverswall, Knight, of the mannor of Billington. (*Ibid.*, fo. 101, 102.)

Henry of the Marsh near Stafford grants to Ralph Baron of Stafford all his lands in Lonedale in Billington. (*Ibid.*, fo. 101.)

Philip of Strongshall remiseth to Ralph Earl of Stafford the right in land in Billington and the Leyse (Lees) of Billington, in the town of the Castle of Stafford. 20 E. III. (Wors. 23.)

The first five paragraphs, continued in this note on p. 123, are from Crompton Deeds in the Chetwynd "Collections of MSS.," Vol. II., p. 101. 5 James, Tho.

each consisting of two hides and a half ; but no conspicuous name appears as subtenant at Burton. Afterwards at an early date first appear there the Palmers. (*Supra*, p. 38.)

An exchange by John de Wenlok with Simon de Celario of a house and land in Coppenhall for an equivalent in Dunston, giving a life interest to Simon, and providing that the house should then remain to Margery, daughter of Phelip de Stafford and his heirs, has Robert de Marisco and Richard le Paumer of Burton amongst other witnesses. Date at Coppenhall, 28 E. See the deed in full in the "Shropshire Arch. Transactions," Vol. IX., ii., p. 183.

Robert de Longrigge and Basilia his wife sued William le Tayllor of Burton for four acres in Stafford, and recovered them by default. (Plea Rolls, 4 E. I.; "Staffordshire Coll.," Vol. VI., p. 74.) They also sued, with what result does not appear, Robert, son of Stephen de Bromleye, for a messuage and eight acres of land in Burton near Stafford. (*Ibid.*, p. 74.)

Patent 5 E. I., m. 8. Tenements in Burton are in 1276-7 in dispute between William le Taylor of Burton as plaintiff, and Roger le Palmer of Burton and Philip de Ricardescote as defendants.

So in 1291-2, William, son of William de Burton, litigated with Hugh, son of William de Byrton, a claim to two acres and a half in Byrton near Stafford. (Pat. 20 E. I., m. 24, *in dorso*.)

In the Plea Rolls, "Staff. Coll.," Vol. VII., pp. 172 and 174, amongst the jurors for the Hundred of Cutholeston, 35 E. I., m. 16, appears Richard le Palmer of Burton ; and for the Liberty of Bradelegh appear William le Palmer, also Richard le Clet of Burton.

It is found by a Patent 31 E. I., 1302-3, m. 25, *in dorso*, that Richard and Adam la Dune were in litigation respecting tenements in Berton (Burton ?) near Stafford.

Crompton de Stone sold to Will. Chamberleyn *alias* Backhouse, all the tythes at Tillington ; and in 35 of Eliz. Will. Crompton of Stone sold all his tithes of Rowley and Billington to Rob. Sleaford of Perryhall ; both had been parcel of the deanery.

At p. 105 (*ibid.*) it is said, "These were the Prebends¹ of the Collegiate Church of Stafford : Forbridge, Burton, Riccarscote, Hopton, Whitgrave, Tillington, Creswall, Ingestre, Tixall. This List of Prebends is inexact (see the "Valor Ecclesiasticus"). All these were purchased by Mr. Crompton (*viz.*), Wiverston, Salt, Harberton, and Coton and Marston."

7 Jac.—Tho. Crompton grants a licence of alienation to Will. Sparry to sell his third part of Deanery of Stafford to Thomas Crompton, Esq.

15 Jac.—Tho. Crompton sells to Sir Edw. Littleton de Pillaton all the tithes of Burton and Ricardscote, parcel of the Deanery of Stafford.

85 Eliz.—Will. Crompton of Stone sells all the tithes of Rowley and Billington parcel of the Deanery of Stafford, to Robert Stanford, Esq., of Perry Hall. (Chetwynd, "Staff. Coll.," Vol. II., p. 101.)

In the year 1333, Roger the son of R. le Goldesmith granted to John son of Simon le Goldsmith all his messuages and tenements in Borton near Stafford. (See Phillippes MS. 8045, at Thirlestane House, Cheltenham.)

In the time of Henry VIII. came two miners or diggers, and promised the Lord Stafford to find water within xii. fodome in the space of thirteene dayes. But the first spade digging was hard marle, and so they gave it over. (*Worsw.*, fo. 1.) (See *supra*, p. 81.)

23 E. I. Mabel, formerly wife of Thomas de Milwich, litigates with Eva relict of Richard de Buterhale and his daughter Dionysa, a right to one-third of a messuage and one-third of half an acre of land in Forebridge. ("Staff. Coll.," Vol. VII., pp. 25, 26). Again, at p. 27, 23 E. I., Richard, son of Peter de Burton, and two chaplains disseise Felicia, relict of Peter de Bourton, of her free tenement in Forebryge near Stafford, viz., of a monthly rent of mixtilon or silligin (rye). It was agreed that Felicia should receive twelve bushels each month from the Hospital of St. John the Baptist near the bridge of Stafford.

Again (23 E. I.) Hugh, son of William le Louerd of Burton, is disseised of an acre of moor in Burton, by William, son of the Louerd, and others.

P. 167. Edmund de Stafford (*temp.* E. I.) granted to William of Frodwal one place called the Greene in fforbridge. (*Worsw.*, fo. 131.)

41 E. I. John de Wenlock witnesses as Bailiff of Stafford a grant by Alice, widow of Henry de Wivelston to Bunnt a baker of Stafford. (Phillips' MSS., Stafford Parcel.)

Humphrey Earl of Stafford grants to John Asbye of Stafford, parcells of land in fforbridge, whereof one parcel extends itself in length, &c., and he gives also *totum pasturabile* in the King's Pool in exchange for land in Leathercrofts (*sic*). (*Worsw.*, fo. 28.)

It appears from a deed (in the Phillips' Collection, 7902) that Humfrey Earl of Stafford (11 H. VI.) passed to John Askeby of Stafford a parcel of meadow in Forebridge, and a John Askeby (*ibidem*) by his will dated 1501, attested by Rich. Aston, Gent., Nicolas Lane, of Orton, Henry Slaney, Chaplain, George Boughy, Robert Doryngton, Gent., Rich. Offeley, "gardian" of the Friars Minors of Stafford, Thomas Melle of Chedill, and many others, devises to Thomas Robyns of Stafford certain houses, meadows, pastures, and other possessions *below the Castle*, and at Foregate, Coton Field, and in the Fee of Essington and Bushbury, and elsewhere in the county of Stafford. It directs his body to be buried in St. Thomas the Martyr's before the image of the Blessed Mary below the Chapel, and 20s. of his rents to be paid to St. Thomas the Martyr to preserve his Obit. (See *supra*, Vol. VIII., part I.)

The great Cartulary at Ingestre, at pp. 25, 26, shows Philip Chetewynd, son of Richard Chetewynd of Ingestre, granting to his mother Thomasina, widow, for life, all her late husband's possessions in Stafford, in Forgate, in Forbrugge near Stafford, in Spytellfield, as well as elsewhere, which had belonged theretofore to William Frodesham, Esq., grandfather of the said Philip. This grant was made at Stafford, 9 H. V., and attested by Will. Preston and Will. Wroukeslowe, then bailiffs of Stafford. An indenture, 1433, which follows, says that previous owners of the said property had been in succession (1) an Erdinton, (2) a Sheld, then (3) a Bowode, (4) the said William Frodesham.

The Chetwynd property in Forbrugge is afterwards, at p. 36, described as follows :—

FORBRUGGE.

	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Pro duobus gardinis et parcellâ unius gardini	ij.	vij.
Pro parcellâ terræ & prati....	...	viii. 0

At p. 57, afterwards this property seems described as 2 cottages and 5 acres of pasture, etc., in Forbryge. Afterwards, at p. 60, the 2 cottages are called seemingly two messuages.

Gregory King, in his memorandum book, Salt MS. 147, at p. 157, tricks several shields as in the parlour window at Forbridge, and says, "These armes now stand in the parlour window at Forbridge, being there set by Mr. Drakeford's¹ grandfather, *circ. an.* 1615, who bought the house of . . . Leigh, a citizeu of London, and Leigh bought it about the year 1600 of ye Barbors of Flashbrook."²

The shields alluded to it is believed no longer exist, but the house is now occupied by Mr. Weston, and called the Green Hall. One shield, that in the "parlour window," represented argent a chevron sable bet. three eagles displayed sable, for Drakeford. There was another shield in another window of the same room, containing the canting device, arg. a drake proper passing through water azure.

The 26 E. 3. Ralph Earl of Stafford grants one piece of meddow under the Marsh near Stafford in exchange for other land in the Hough and in Prior's meddow within Stafford. (*Worsw.*, fo. 27.)³

¹ The Drakefords of Forbridge were connected by intermarriage with Wilkes, of Willenhall ("Staff. Coll.," Part II., p. 820), and with Babington, of Curboro'. (*Ibid.*, p. 24.)

² Mr. Barbour was bailiff of Forbridge for the Lords Stafford in the early part of the 17th century.

³ The Stafford MSS. at Blithfield (see *supra*, p. 105 n.) contain several statements, made evidently with a view of supporting claims that had been disputed or neglected; among those are the following, headed:—

The Case of the Castle Meadows and the Hide Meadow.

Edward Lo. Stafford, tenant in tail, the reversion being in the }
Crowne.

Granted to Agnes Sperwyn, widow, and to Jo. Sperwyn, by
indfe dated April 28, Eliz. 31, the moyetie and one halfe
of the Castle Meadow and the Hyde Meadows for the term
of their lives, and after their deaths to their assigns for the
life of one Joseph Weston, paying yearly xxx.s. iiij.d. rent.

} Proved by the old
book of breviatt
of leases, fo. 44.

And the same Lord Stafford graunted unto Wm. Goldsmyth by
indfe dated Sept. 4, Eliz. 31, the other moytie of the sd.
meadows for the life of the sd. W. Goldsmyth, his son
Henry, and Aline Tynghes, paying the like rent of
xx.s. iiij.d.

} See the book of
Turbrar (*sic*),
fo. 40.

The same MSS. gives a Rent Roll, under date seemingly of 1659. From this it appears that Lord Stafford had then more than a score of holdings in Stafford, the tenants named being Ric. Craver, Geo. Jownings, Tho. Clarke, Tho. Abnet, Widow Battye, Cath. Pegg, "Owld Till," Wid. Matthew, Edward Ward, Parson Martin, Francis Saunders, Will. Walth, Tho. Farden, Rich. Cluett, Thos. Perye, W. Davenport, Rewele (? Rowley), Rich. Farmer, Hitchcock, Jo. Mogg, Tho. Ward (house and meadow, Risingbrook Farm), Lane, Anne Greve, Jo. Blakemor, Jo. Cooke, Grabonar.

Henry Stafford grants unto Robert Rogothesley and others the disposition of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist when it shall next be voided. (*Ibid.*, fo. 133.)

It appears from the Pat. Rolls, 3 E. I., m. 9, *dorso* (59), and m. 10, *dorso* (36), that Henry le Forester, or le Freyter, and Margery his wife, arraigned a writ of mort d'ancestor against John de la Haleth or Hachl (? Halgh or Hough) concerning meadow land in Forebridge, and that the boundaries had been in question. (See 44th Report of the Dep. K., App. p. 108.)

Robert Prior of St. Thomas the Martyr grants to Ralph Earl of Stafford two pieces of meadowing, one called Backholm-in-the-Hough, and the other called the Prior's Meadow within the Park. (*Worw.*, fo. 23.)

Richard de Wenlocke grants to Ralph Barron of Stafford all his messuage and other lands in florbrough de Stafford called le Haulghe, and in the Spittle juxta Stafford. (*Ibid.*, fo. 286.)

ffryer Robert Prior of St. Thomas the Martir nere Stafford and the Convent there doe release Ralph Erle of Stafford xij.d., a yearly rent issueing out of the Hough. (*Ibid.*, fo. 287.)

Hyde Manor.—With reference to an observation of General Wrottesley alluded to at p. 30, *supra*, I regret to say that what I there wrote has not his concurrence. General Wrottesley writes to say that he "adheres to the opinions expressed in his notes on the Liber Niger, "Staff. Coll.," Vol. I., that the anonymous manor in Domesday is Weston Jones, and that the fief of Hyde and Holedale is the same as the fief of Coppenhall under another name, the nomenclature changing when the manorial court was moved from Coppenhall to the Hyde near Stafford."

Hyde Manor.—Amongst Mr. Heveningham's deeds *apud* Chetwynd, "Staff. Coll.," Vol. II., p. 79, is a grant, whereby Will. Bagot dom. de la Hyde passed to the Lord Will. Wyther for his homage and service fifteen

	£	s.	d.
Those tenants' rents amounted to	105	16	4
Lambercotes parc. of, and ditch meadow	47	8	4
King's Pool (bated of the water), ten meadows to different tenants	26	6	4
Stafford Pool, five meadows, house, and leasow barn.. ..	22	0	0
Forebridge, nearer Hough (Rob Talbot), and further Hough Dorrington, Spittle meadow	21	0	0
(There seems some omission or inaccuracy in the items, which do not here correspond with the sum)	266	16	0
Other lands, meadows, Castle hills, Church field, black pool, &c., sum	350	16	8
Neighbouring towns, <i>inter alia</i> , Coppenhall, Sir Tho. Whitgreave, some land	8	0	0
Billington, sum	296	2	2

Another extract from the same MSS. enumerates as part of the Stafford estate, "floure tenements or cottages in florbridge, floure pooles of land called Stafford Pooles in Silkmore, one pool of land called Stafford poolehead adjoining to the sd. Stafford Pooles. One meadow in Silkmore abutting upon the sd. Stafford Pooles. Certayne pools of land in florbridge, being a fourth part of the Lambercotes."

virgates of arable land in Coppenhale, rendering to the donor 1*d.* annually, and paying down 120 (*series viginti*) marks of silver. Witnesses: Dom. Jo. de Chetwynd, Dom. Will de Caversall, Dom. Phil. de Chetwynd, Dom. Tho. de Draycot, Dom. Joh. Tuschot, Bertram de Bur, etc., same date. At an early date (Pat. Rolls, 1 E. I., m., 5, *in dorso*) Robert de Cressewelle is in dispute with William Bagod and others concerning tenements in Boterhall. A little later, 2 E. I., m. 21, *in dorso*, we find Richard Bagot arraigning an assize of novel disseisin against William Bagod, concerning tenements in La Hide. By suit undefended in the 7th of E. I., Richard Bagot recovered against William Bagot his Manor of La Hide, excepting Coppenhale and La Leye, and his manor of Pateshull and its members, Byonhill and Snoddon. ("Staffordshire Coll.," Vol. VI., p. 141.) It appears from the same volume, at p. 75, text and note, that the parties had entered into a special agreement respecting Hide and Patahull, and their descent after the death of William to his sons in succession in respective intail. Shaw cites a deed to the same effect. ("Hist. of Staffordshire," Vol. II., p. 280; see also *infra*, p. 131, last para.) Ralph Baron de Stafford dates at the Hyde a grant of property in Norton-super-le-Mores, sealed the 10th year of Edward III. (Hadfield MSS., in Salt Collection, No. 30.) But note that two years afterwards it is said by Mr. Worswick that Richard (error? for Ralph) Baron of Stafford grants to Allen Brid his manors of Bradeley and Madeley, with the advowson of the Churches. Dated apud manerium de Stafford, 12 Edw. III. (*Worsw.*, fo. 260.)¹

Another deed concerning the same is dated apud manerium nostrum de Lay (? Lea) Hide juxta Stafford, but without date of time; it would not seem to have preceded the last.

The two following extracts enable the reader to contrast Stafford manors.

In an inquest ad quod damnum, 8 E. III., No. 68 (second Nos.), Ralph de Stafford is said to hold the two manors of Hide and Norton as if he had held the whole of each; they were worth £20 per annum. And of Hide he died seised, for it appears in the inquest at his death, to have consisted of one messuage, also a certain park whereof the herbage is worth 40*d.* beyond the support of the deer, without any underwood, also two carucates of land worth by the year 26*s.* 8*d.*, also four acres of meadow worth by the year 5*s.*, also two fish ponds worth by the year 4*s.* But in the inquest at the death of the next Earl, only two-thirds of Hide are mentioned (the messuage is omitted entirely), and two parts of the manor, two parts of the park, and two parts of two carucates of demesne land. It is noteworthy that for this estate and members of the Castle Manor there were rents of assize, as well of free tenants as of others, amounting to £32 13*s.* 2½*d.*, and also six barbed arrowa.

Hide continues to figure only for such two-thirds in the inquests at the deaths of the respective Earls who had held it until, as before mentioned, it was transferred to a member of the junior branch, i.e., of Hook. We see no mention of it in such records later than in the inquest at the death of Earl Edmund, 4 H. IV., No. 41. But the last-mentioned estate is therein treated as distinct from Coppenhall, as it is in the inquest of the previous Earls.

¹ Edmund de Stafford held the Manors of Bradeley and Madeley anno regni Regis Edw. II. (fo. 256 and 257.) (Chetwynd MSS. "Staff. Collections," Vol. II., p. 163.)

The grants by Ulfer and Richard fil. Simon de Butterhall cited from Huntebach and Loxdale (*supra*, p. 28) are repeated in Worswick's "Notes from Stafford MSS." Worswick proceeds; William Bagot, Knt., grants to Ralph the son of Edmund Baron of Stafford all his manor of Hide. (This must have been previously to the 8th of E. III.; see *Worsw.*, fo. 138, 159.)

Hugh Erle of Stafford grants to divers persons all his lands which he hath in Copenhale. (*Ibid.*, fo. 110.)

Hugh Erle of Stafford grants away the manor of Hide and land in Copenhall. (*Ibid.*, iii.)

A fine levied concerning Hide. (*Ibid.*, fo. 158.)

The subject of the Hydes is obscure, from the absence of the requisite documentary evidence. The obscurity can only be dissipated by the direct testimony of charters and records. Loxdale and Huntbach accept the tradition (*supra*, pp. 28, 29) which says that "Hyde went after by daughters to the Lords Stafford and Verneys." The same writers regarded the Hydes as mentioned in Domesday Book; they do not say under a different name. But be this as it may, the Staffords held both Hyde and Coppenhall *in capite*, and afterwards occupied for a time an estate which they called the Manor of Hyde. Ralph de Stafford's possession of the manors of Hide and of Norton is assigned as a reason for the King's allowing him to alienate other property (Inq. ad qd. damnum, 8 E. III., No. 68, second Nos.), until it was transferred to the Staffords of Hook.

In the 56 H. III., Thomas de Renes had remitted to Nicholas son of Robert de Stafford all his right to sixty acres in La Hide. ("Staff. Coll.," Vol. IV., p. 195.)

At an early period Hide was spoken of in conjunction with land called Holedale. ("Staff. Coll.," Vol. II., p. 275.) Holedale exists no longer, if it ever did, as a single estate; the very name is lost in its integrity, but may partly survive in four closes in Coppenhall, to the east of Hyde Lea, although next adjoining the extreme boundary of the manor of the Castle in the vicinity of a place called the Moss Pit. The closes are numbered in the Tithe Reference Book 239, 243, 241, 242, and they are named: Part of Coppenhall Hole, part of Big Coppenhall Hole, Little Coppenhall Hole, and Coppenhall Hole Meadow. Together they contain some sixteen or seventeen acres, and the ancient terminal syllable "Dale" is not inappropriately used here. Holedale may have also been called Holeden. Will. Bagot of Holeden is witness to a deed towards the end of the twelfth century. (See "Staff. Coll.," Vol. II., Part II., p. 135, and Vol. IV., p. 112.) The two words suggest a hollow or a dell.

In the Pat. Roll 54 H. III., m. 20, *dorso*, Robert de Marisco is at aw with Ralph Wymer concerning a certain fishpond constructed in Fording-brigge.

So Robert of the Marsh near Stafford (Pat. Roll, 5 E. I., m. 131) claims common of pasture in the Marsh against Nicholas Barun (? Baron of Stafford) and others.

In the 5th year of E. I. (Pat. Roll, m. 13, *dorso*), Robert of the Marshe near Stafford arraigns an assize of novel disseisin against Nicholas Barun and others concerning common of pasture in the Marsh near Stafford.

It appears from a Close Roll of the 19 H. III. (m. 11, *dorso*), that amongst other Sheriffs, the Sheriff of Staffordshire was commanded,

as he valued himself, to endeavour to capture the murderers of Maurice Fitzgerald, Justiciar of Ireland, amongst whom were William de Marisco and his family, whether of the Marsh near Stafford does not appear. But all the murderers, having been arraigned, had fled, and were supposed to be making for the sea in order to embark for the Isle of Lundy in Cornwall.

Thomas de Pipe grants to Henry of the Marsh and Margery his wife lands in the Marsh nere unto Stafford. (*Worsw.*, fo. 271 and 272.)

Temp. Ric. II., Sir Humphrey Stafford, Knight, held half a Knight's fee in Rickerscote. (Chetw. Coll., Vol. II., he cites an inquisition of Knights Fees, but it is at page 29, towards the middle of the volume.)

Amongst the Philipps' MSS. (see note 1 on pp. 129, 130, 131) one, *s. d.*, endorsed, "*Ista terra et dominia sunt de terra de Ricardescote,*" is as follows:—

"Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Adam filius Roberti de . . . ston concessi &c. Ricardo sconario manenti in villa Stafford pro homagio et servicio suo triginta seliones terræ in territorio de Ricardescote quorum duo

¹ By charter *s. d.*, Roger Selymon de Stafford grants to his daughter Emma and heirs, a messuage and half a "wara" and twelve acres of arable land, *cum toto prato suo*, and other appurtnces in Ricardescote; in failure of heirs to revert to grantor. Warranty sealed (but seal gone). Witnesses: Roger le Palmer de Burton, Will. le Palmer of the same, Robert and Will. de Salter de Ricardescote, Richard Kyri of the same, John atte Walle of the same, and others.

"Omnibus Christi fidelibus præsens scriptum visuris vel audituris Simon fil. Simonis del Celer capellanus eternam in dño salutem. Noveritis me remisisse Robto Selymon de Staff. hed. vel suis assignatis totum jus meum et clameum quod, &c., in toto illocrofto cum suis ptnbs. quod vocatur le Stonecroft jacente inter terram Prioris St. John Baptist et venellam quæ se ducit versus Ricardescote: Videlicet illud quod Adam Waldun tenuit de me ad terminum vitæ sue, &c. Hiis testibus, Johe de Pikstok & Johe le Marchal tunc (*sic*) ballivis Staff.; Johe de Wenlok, Willo Reyner, Robto Morice de Ricardescote, Rico Kyr de eadem, Ric. fil. Dni atte Walle de eadem, et aliis. Dat apud Staff. die Martis in festo de Bartholomei apli., anno regni Regis Edwardi quinto." (Seal gone.)

21 E. III. Rob. Selymon, son and heir of Roger Selymon of Stafford, grants to Agnes daughter of Robert atte Townsende of Ricardescote, the three butts of (arable) land . . . Ricardescote lying in the field called Le Croftes, between the land of Will. atte Townsende on the one side and other land of . . . Robert at the Townsende of Rickerscote of the other side. To have and hold the said three butts for ever to the said Agnes and her heirs from the over lord for customary and due services. Rendering to me annually and my heirs and assigns 6d. of silver twice, *i.e.*, . . . and on the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary Virgin, in equal payments for all services, &c. Warranty.

"Hujus testibus: Rog. le Palmer, Rich. le Palmer, Johe de Huford, Jo. atte Walle, Rich. Kyrie, et aliis. Dat apud Ricardescote die Jan. px. ad fest: Sancte Marie . . . anno regni Regis Edward tercii 21."

23 E. III. An Indre. bet. Roger at the . . . de Hughteston, John Cunfrey, Chaplain, and Philip of Hughteston (Hixon) de Stafford on the one side, and the Prior and Convent of St. Thomas the Martyr near Stafford of the other part, whereby the former grant to the latter and their successors all their lands and tenements with the appurtnces in Ricardescote, and a "place" of meadow called Cowesholm, (?) and a "place" of meadow called Stokkings, near the meadow of Selkenore with the appurtnces, "*que fuerant*" of the gift and feoffment of

seliones jacent in heyweyes furlong inter terram quam Galfridus de Coppenthal tenuit et terram quam Thomas de Ricard. tenuit et duo jacent

Robert fitz Roger Selymon of Stafford, *sine ullo* (retenemento), for the term of thirty years next following, for a certain sum of money payable to the said Roger, John, and Phillip, and rendering to them a red rose at the feast of St. John the Baptist for all services. Warranty.

Witnesses: Matene (Malcolino ?) de Wasteney, Knt., Will. his son, John de Hugeford of Ricardescote, Rich. le Palmer, Robert de Waller, John de Hanegate, Hugh Senshe, and others. Dated at Ricardescote. Small white round seal.

23 E. III. Rob. son of Rog. Selymon of Stafford grants to Roger called . . . de Hugteston, Jo. Beffrey, Chaplain, and Phil. de Hugteston de Staff. all his lands and tenements in Ricardescote, without any reserve, and a "place" of meadow called Cockesholm, and two parts of a "place" of meadow called the Stockings, near the meadow of Selkemor. Also the reversion of a part of the third part of the said piece of land with appurtenances, which Alicia Selymon my mother holds in dower of my inheritance, and which after her death reverts to me and to my heirs, to them and their heirs, &c., for ever (rendering due service to the lord), with warranty.

Witnesses: Nicho Reyner, Jo. de Hugeford of Ricardescote, Rico le Palmer, John atte Walle of Ricardescote, Rob. by the Water of Salte, and others. Given at Ricardescote, &c.

A.D. 1333. Roger fil. R. le Goldsmith granted to John fil. Simonis le Goldsmith all his messuages and tenements in Borton near Stafford. Witnesses: Roger le . . . , Henry le . . . , Rich. and Roger, Roger &c. (Phillipps' MSS. 8045, No. 509.)

20 E. III. Convention made between Robert del Egge and Emma his wife of one part, and John son of Rich. de Bilinton of the other, viz., that Rob. and Emma have granted to and demised to John nine acres of arable land and all their meadow, &c., in Ricardescote, of which acres three lie in a certain croft called Selimonescroft, with three *foreires* in the same croft, and one selio lies in le Aspes, viz., between the land which was Roger le Goldsmith's on the one part, and the land of Alice of Bedenhale of the other, and an acre of two selions abutts upon the mere and lies namely, between Alice of Bedenhale's lands on one side, and the land of Letitia Marel on the other side, and one selion extends near the high road leading from Stafford to Dunston, and lies in sooth between the land of Robt. Selymon on the one side and the land of John at the Wall on the other, and one selio abuts upon the ovende (?) and lies between the land of Rich. Kyrie on one side and that of Rich. de la Doune on the other, and one selion called le Stanri half acre lying between the land of Alice de Bedenhale on one side and the land of Ric. Kyrie of the other, and three acres in Hankesmorefeld, of which two selions lie in the Weterenes, and a half acre extends to the polsuche, and lie, viz., between Rich. Kyrie's land on one side and Robert Selymon's on the other, and two selions lie atte Crosacre, namely, betw. the land of Rob. Selymon on one side and the land of Alice de Bedenhale of the other, and one acre extends to the full syche and lies in sooth betw. Rich. Kyrie's land on the one side and the land of Thomas le . . . exelea (?) and one selio lies at Stonylowe, viz., between the land of Rob. Selymon on one side and the land of Alice de Bedenhale on the other. Hab. and tenend. to the sd. John and his assigns with all, &c. Reddendo annually to the said Robert and Emma annually and heirs for next six years, 20s. of silver; and conditions, remainders, and warranty follow. Witnesses: Jo. de Huggeford, Rob. de Salt, Rich. Kyrie, Jo. at the Walle, Will. at the Townsende, and others. Dated at Stafford.

sup. sumneri furlong inter terram quam dictus Thomas tenuit et duo jacent supra Wetenfurlong et [unus] sup. le fulshiche et unus seylio jacet sup. . . . furlong sup. terram quam dictus Thomas tenuit et unus jacet super Bromestefurlong et unus jacet in le Wetermel juxta terram dicti Thome et duo jacent in Alrecolrefurlong juxta terram dicti Thomæ et unus seylio extendit se versus Sartford (?) et unus seylio vocatur conflofris halfacre et unus extendit se versus . . . onedich et tres seyliones qui vocantour (*sic*) le foracre et quartuor seyliones qui . . . jacent et . . . se supra Marham et tres jacent ad capud quatuor seylionum versus magnam marleram et inde extendunt se versus le fuletz (?) et unus extendit se versus le heymor et vertit se super foreram dicti Thome et unus extendit se Wychgammor et jacet juxta terram dicti Thome et unus jacet juxta le Heywey et terram dicti Thomæ et duo jacent supra hechene furlong juxta terram sepedicti Thome quos quidem seyliones . . . ex dono Simonis de Ricard. et Anabil uxoris sue. Reddendo inde annuatim mihi et heredibus meis unum denarium ad festum Scti Mich^{is} et ad illud festum dicto Simoni de

Phillipps' MSS. 7904. 22 E. III. A final concord between Robert Selymon of Staff.^{ord}, plaintiff, and Robert del Egge de Sreycote (Shredicote) and Emma his wife, defendants, whereby the latter admitted a messuage, thirty acres of arable land, and four acres of meadow with the appurtenances, in Burton and Ricardescote near Stafford, to be the right of Robert Selyman, and surrendered them to him to hold to him and his heirs as of the capital lands of that fee for the services to them pertaining, and for the payment by the plaintiffs to the defendants of 40 marcs of silver.

23 E. III. John Geffrey de Stafford, Chaplain, quitclaims to Roger at the Lowe de Hughteston, Chaplain, of Stafford, all his rights in the land, &c., in Rickerscote which he had of the gift and feoffment of Rob. fitz Rog. Selyman of Stafford; also in place of meadow called Cockhole (?) and a place of meadow called the Stocking, near Selkemor, with the reversion.

Witnesses: Nich. Reyner, John de Huford de Rickerscote, Ric. le Palmer, John atte Walle de Recearden, Robert by the water of Salt. Dated at Stafford.

23 E. III. Pateat universis me Robtum fil. Roger Selymon de Stafford ordinasse et loco meo constituisse dilectum mihi in Christo Adamum de Cherton Capell^m attornatum meum ad ponendum P atte Lowe de Hughteston, cappell^m et Philippum Beffrey de Stafford Capell^m & Phil. de Hugheston de Stafford, in seisinam de omnibus terris & terr meis in Ricardescote sine ullo retenimento et de duobus placeis pti in quarum una vocatur le Stocking juxta pratum de Selkemor & alia placea vocatur Socholm (Cowsholm?). Dat. apud Stafford, die Sabti xvi. post festum Ascensionis.

Omnibus & Agatha fil. Rob. de Ricardescote salutem Noveritis me concessisse Rob. dicto le Paumer de Borton illud mess., &c., quod tenui(t) Rob. le Paumer.

The Phillipps' MSS. contain several other original charters respecting parts of Rickerscote granted in alms, but they also concern the Priory of St. Thomas the Martyr, and have therefore an appropriate place amongst the evidences of the Priory. (See *supra*, Part I.) They name places and persons mentioned also in the foregoing abstracts. One of them is a transfer to Robert the Prior made by Sir John Stafford, Knt. (Sir John of Lilleshull), of lands once Robert Selymon's of Stafford; another is a grant by Ralph Earl of Stafford, dated *apud manerium nostrum de la Hyde*, of land once Robert Selymon's, for the services of old thereto pertaining.

Ricard: et Anabil uxori sue et eorum heredibus unum alium denarium pro omni servicio seculari vel demanda, querelis et exigenciis et maye (?) pro omnibus sectis . . . curie; pro hac autem concessione dedit mihi predictus Ricardus quinque marcas et decem solidos Wingorum (?) præ manibus. Ego vero Adam et heredes mei vel assignati mei omnes predictos seylliones cum omnibus suis pertinenciis predicto Ricard. et heredibus suis vel assignatis vel delegatis pro predicto servicio in omnibus rebus, sociis, et temporibus contra omnes mortales in perpetuum warantizabimus, & ut mea concessio robur firmitatis in perpetuum obtineat eam sigilli mei impressione roboravi. Hujus testibus: Johanne Morice, Ricardo bracon, Roberto le puerei (?), Thoma. de Borton, Pecco fratre dicti Thome, Ricardo de Ricarde: Willelmo Scheld et aliis."

(A Will. Sheld witnesses Charters of St. Thomas' Priory. Phillippes MSS. 7897, No. 533. Seal gone.)

We find from the 44th Report of the Deputy Keeper, App., p. 223, that Walter le Warner sued Nicholas de Stafford and Ralph le Bedle, touching a tenement in Rickerscote, in the 3rd E. I., Pat. Roll, *m.* 10*d* (37), and that the same Walter le Warner sued the same Nicholas de Stafford and Robert de Burley in the same year. (Pat. Roll, *m.* 35*d* (5).)

A Roger Brakin grants, 21 E. III., a tenement in Bradeley to Ralph Earl of Stafford. (*Worsw.*, fo. 80.)

Sir Humfrey Trafford, Knt., at one time held Ricardescote from Willm. Earl of Stafford. (See the Inq. at the Earl's death, 22 Ric. II.)

A fine of novel disseisin arraigned by Richard le Gurdlere against Simon de Ricardescote and Anibella his wife, concerning tenements in Ricardescote. (*re* Pat. Roll, 6 E. I., *m.* 5.)

In the previous year ended, we find (Pat. Roll, 5 E. I., *m.* 8) William le Taylor of Burton claiming tenements at Burton against William le Palmer of Burton and Philip de Ricardescote. In the year 1274 we find Nicholas de Stafford and Ralph le Bedel defendants at the suit of Walter le Warner, concerning tenements in Ricardescote. Another entry of the same year (Pat. Roll, 3 E. I., *m.* 35, *in dorso*) makes Nicholas de Stafford a co-defendant with Robert de Burley at the suit of the same Warner also for tenements in Ricardescote.

Petronilla wife of John Morice of Rickerscote, who had been guardian in soccage for their son Robert, was called upon to give an account of Robert's lands during his minority. ("Staff. Coll." Vol. VII., p. 78.)

Harvey Bagot (22 E. I.) held under Edmund de Stafford, son of Nicholas, a messuage and two carucates of land in Rickerscote, and Richard, son of John Morys, occupied them as under tenant, rendering certain service. Of this service Edmund de Stafford acquitted him. ("Staff. Coll." Vol. VII., p. 8.)

Chetwynd, Staff. Col., Vol. III., p. 166, mentions, from original evidences, Rob. Morys, dom. de Ricardescote, 4 E. II.

At a subsequent date the jurors declared it would not be to the damage of the King if William de Lilleshull, Baker, granted 2 virgates and 12 acres of land, etc., in Ricardescote, Eburton, and Coton near Stafford to the Priory of St. Thomas the Martyr.¹ They said moreover that the Prior was mesne

¹ The Fowler estate in A.D. 1649 included property at Rickerscote (presumably once belonging to St. Thomas Priory) valued at £4 per annum. (Royal Compositions, Salt Transcript, Vol. II., p. 731.)

landlord between the King and the said William. (Inq. ad qd. damnum, 21 E. III., No. 62.) In the Chetw. MSS., Vol. II., p. 133, amongst Whitgreave deeds, is the following abstract :—

“Sciant &c. qd Ego Johes del Croft vici de Berkswich dedi &c. John de Aston de Salt, Margeriae Selyman de Stafford, ad totum vitam ipsius Margeriae & Johi de Briggefurd, filio Adæ Waterson de Briggefurd, & hæc. & assignatis ipsius Johis de Briggefurd omnia ten. mea de Ricardscote, quæ nuper habui de dom & feofmento Hugonis de Norton in feud. in perpetuum &c. Teste : John Clifton, Will. Palmer, &c. 18 Ric. II.

A piece of meadowing in Ricardescote (is) called Rereholme. (*Worsw.*, fo. 295. 6 E. VI.) At this date, on the 31st July, died Thomas Rugeley, Esq., who is shown by the inquisition to have held Rickerscote from Humphrey Whitgreave.

Amongst the Royal Compositions in the Salt MSS., Vol. II., p. 857, a Humfrey Gouldsmith is mentioned as paying £14 for two years' tenure of land at Rickerscote, under the Commonwealth, A.D. 1651, 1652.

Radford Bridge stands on what was the edge of the ancient Forest of Cannock, and indicates one of its approaches, for Dugdale (*Warw.*, p. 138) tells us that Hugh de Loges held five tenements in Chesterton (co. Warwick), by the service of conducting the Earl of Chester towards the King's Court through the midst of the Forest of Kanok; meeting him at Rotford bridge, upon notice of his coming, and at Hopwas bridge upon his return; in which forest the Earl might, if he pleased, kill a deer in his going, and another at his coming back; giving unto Loges at each time he should attend him a barb'd arrow.

We find from the Pat. Roll, 5 E. I. (1276-7), m. 9, *dorso*, that Richard de Roulowe arraigned an assize of novel disseisin against Peter the Prior of St. John near Stafford and Henry le Fevre concerning tenements in Roulowe.

William de Mortuomari (Mortimer) and R. de Bellafago were appointed by Pat. 34 E. I. to take the assize of novel disseisin arraigned by Ralph le Teynturer of Forebrugge against Richard le Palmere of Burton and Felicia his wife and others, concerning common of pasture in Rulowe (Rowley) near Stafford.

By charter dated at Stafford 15 H. VI., witnessed by Jo. Holt & Jo. Cradoc, then Bailiffs of Stafford, and Jo. Bradley, Tho. Lych and Tho. Molot, Burgesses, and others, Thomas Fisher de Roulow near Stafford granted to Jo. Temmis and Tho. Browne, Chaplains, and to Will. Knighton and Ralph Bottiler, of Stafford, Burgesses, all his lands, &c., in Roulow aforesaid. (See Abstract by Bassano, Salt MS. 153, p. 35.)

Worswick notes also an extent of the Manor of Rowley (*fo. iii.*).

Temp. E. I. Juliana widow of Robert de Halgthon claimed as dower a portion amongst places in Selkemor.

Margery wife of John de Rowelawe claimed (28 E. I.) in dower one-third of three acres in Rowleowe and Stafford. (“Staff. Coll.,” Vol. VII., p. 72.) The same widow apparently, though called Margaret, claimed (28 E. I.) as dower one-third of sixteen acres in Rowelowe and Stafford, eight and one-third of a messuage. (*Ibid.*, p. 76.)

In the 34 E. I., or about it, a common of pasture in Roulowe near Stafford was in litigation by John son of Ralph le Teynturer of Forebrugge, with Richard le Palmer, of Burton, Richard Kirry, and others; but the suit was

dismissed on Palmer's producing a deed which showed that he held the moor (? Silkmere) and marsh conjointly with Felice his wife and Richard his son, who had not been named in the writ. This appears to have been supplied, for a general result seems that no common in Rouelowe was appurtenant to an occupant in Forebrugge unless he also occupied lands in Rouelowe, the jury held that the claimant had been . . . ntly seized of his common tho . . . half moor and marsh. ("Staff. Coll.," Vol. VII., pp. 130-1.)

By his deed dated at Rouloue 20 Ed. II., on St. Martin's Day, A.D. 1326, John fitz John of Rouloue released for himself and heirs to John, son of William Bridoun all his claim to a messuage and curtilage and to twelve acres of land and adjacent meadow with appurtenances in Rouloue aforesaid, which came to him hereditarily and as reversioner under a gift in frank marriage made to the aforesaid William Bridon with Alice his wife, by Philip de Rouloue grandfather of John fitz John aforesaid: to the reversion in which lands and tenements contingent upon the death of the sons of the aforesaid Will. Bridoun without issue, the first John quitclaimed his right to the said John son of Will. Bridoun and his heirs for ever. Witnesses: Vivian de Chetwynd, Will de Caversall, Richard Kerie de Ricardcote and Rich. Atwell¹ of the same place; Richard the Dyer (Tinctor) of fferiebrugge; Henry de Marisco, Thomas fitz John de Rouloue, Simon de Melewich, and others. (See Salt MS. 153 (Bassano's), p. 34, second pagination. The copyist has written throughout Roulone, which I have altered to Rouloue.)

A.D. 1654. The Trustees for the sale of fee farms certified that Henry Brandreth had purchased that day from them the rent for £10 reserved for the site of the Priory of St. Augustine near Stafford, amounting to £64 3s. 2d. ob. (Royal Compositions, Vol. I., p. 437, Salt Transcript.)

Richard Attewell of Richardescote claimed against Robert de Dokeseye and Beatrice the widow of Hugh de Akesey (Dokesey) common of pasture in Solkmere (Silkmere) appurtenant to his free tenement in Richardescote, of which Hugh formerly husband of Beatrice and brother of the said Robert, whose heir he was, had unjustly disseised him. (Plea Rolls, 3 E. I., abstracted "Staff. Coll.," Vol. VI., p. 72.)

Radulphus de Stafford grants to Richard Wenlock of Stafford one place of more (moor) in fforbridge de Stafford, neer to the petepuls in Selkermore as it is ditched about ad faciendum vivarium, 8 Ed. II. (*Worsw.*, fo. 21.)

Richard the son of John of Wenlocke grants to Ralphe the son of Edmund Baron of Stafford totum vivarium called Selkermore poole, dated 1329. (*Worsw.*, fo. 21.)

Ralph de Stafford, the heir of Edmund Baron of Stafford (*temp.* E. III.), remiset to John of Wenlocke de Stafford (*sic*) lands that did belong to the Priory of the Hospital of Ratford, with appurtena. in fforbridge nere to the petypulle in Selkermore. (*Worsw.*, fo. 131.)

Henry of Huntingdon² praised the town from which he derived his name,

¹ See Richard Attewelle in Plea Roll of 5 E. I., "Staff. Coll.," Vol. VI., Part I., p. 81.

² *Huntendoniam vero, id est montem Venatorum, loco Godmuncestre, nobilis quondam urbis, nunc vero villæ non inamabilis, ex alia parte fluminis sita, Castris duobus*

for the convenient proximity of the fens, and its great advantage for hunting and fishing, its pleasant situation, its handsomeness and beauty. "But," says Mr. Southey, in his life of Cowper, "since his time thirteen out of fifteen churches have been demolished or have fallen to ruins; a priory of regular canons, a house of Augustinian friars, and two hospitals for lepers and poor people have been destroyed; and of its large castle, placed on a commanding site above the Ouse, and supposed to have been a Roman work, no vestiges remain above ground." Our thoughts revert to the subject which this paper has passed rapidly in review. Here too the marshes and woods and forests are gone; here too castles, churches, hospitals, and chapels have perished by the hand of violence more than the decay of time. No Royal Chapel with numerous prebends and dependent chapels any longer exhibits an epitome of early ecclesiastical life and organization. Friaries are down, their places hardly know them more, and no remnant even is left; but perhaps here and there brief walls of "bur" stones still mark old or serve for new limits, or a glistening fragment of alabaster or ancient masonry, whose origin their owner scarcely knows, peeps forth from garden decorations. Canals and railroads as means of intercommunication have taken the place of narrow deep worn lanes, or trenched upon the course of ancient roads or highways; faubourghs have become at once less in size and more populous, and the borough has been enlarged; parishes have been divided and fresh districts formed, marshes have been drained and embanked; the vicinity of the county town as well as the town itself bears upon its face the evidence of its own and the nation's history, of the increase of population, and notwithstanding checks at times, of the advance of trade, of the fusion of classes, of the growth of municipal institutions and of liberty.

prædictis, tam situs fulgore, quam sui decore; tam prædictarum paludum vicinitate quam ferarum et piscium fertilitate longe præminet. (Henrici Huntind. Hist., Liber VI., ad annum 1010.)

APPENDICES.

Appendix A, p. 2, par. 3.

The inconsistency of topographical writers up to his own time appears unconsciously to the writer himself in Gough's additions to Camden, and in a less degree in Harwood's notes to Erdeswick's "Survey of Staffordshire." Even Sir Harris Nicolas¹ speaks of the Castle on the Hill as having been built by William the Conqueror. (MS. note to Banks' "Dormant and Extinct Baronage," Salt Library.) Mr. Eyton himself vacillated in opinion; called the subject a part of a great problem, for which he adopted a strange solution, taking a Baron's castle to have been the King's, in spite of their sites in different hundreds, and the contemporary mention of the two castles in subsequent records. (Staffordshire Domesday, Addenda, p. 135; "Staff. Coll.," Vol. I., p. 20; Vol. II., p. 78.) So also Nightingale (A.D. 1817), p. 884, confounds the two castles; and White ("Staffordshire," ed. 1851), p. 324, tells us again that the Castle on the Hill was built by William the Conqueror.

Nearer the time, and more exact in what he affirms, Erdeswicke says, pp. 144-5-6, on the other hand: "The town has been walled (as I take it) round about, whereof some part remains, and the rest sheweth by the ruins where they have been; and *there hath been also a castle within the town*, but now it is quite decayed. The castle which now standeth on the south side, and is half a mile or more from the town, hath and doth belong to the earls and barons of Stafford. The said castle that now is, was builded by Raufe, first earl of Stafford, as the report is, and not unlike to be true; and yet I have a certain deed, dated apud castrum juxta Stafford, long before the said Raufe; so that it would seem, that Raufe earl of Stafford did re-edify the said castle and not new build it."

Sir Simon Degge in a note to Plot's "Staffordshire," in the University Library (Cambridge), has these words: "There was a castle within the Towne neere the Broad eye and a bancke called the Castle Banck, in my tyme." (Degge, b. 1612, d. 1702-3). Mr. Speed in his map of Stafford takes notice of Castle Hill there.

So a map in the Office of the Clerk of the Crown, Stafford, corroborates Speed, with the addition that the slight elevation where now stands a mill near the new bridge marks the spot where once stood the castle of Edward the Elder, and the ownership of the meadow between the site and the river this map assigns to Lord Stafford. The great family whose "*caput baroniæ*"

¹ In a manuscript note of Sir Harris Nicolas written in the margin of his copy of "Bank's Dormant and Extinct Baronage of England" (now in the Salt Library), Vol. II., p. 520, I find as follows:—

"Sir William Jerningham cleared the basement story of Stafford Castle about 1800, showing the form and extent of the baronial fortress. Sir George Jerningham his son, Lord Stafford, rebuilt one front on the old foundation. The mount on which the castle stands is about 105 feet by 50 feet. The walls are 8 (?) feet in thickness." And then he adds, following the old blunder, "it was *founded by Will. Cong.*, and rebuilt by Ralph E. of Stafford." See also *supra*, pp. 118-9 n.

was in the immediate vicinity of the town, encouraged by the favour of kings and the flattery of the municipality, had thought that the town too was theirs by right, or that it would soon become so. The existence of an old castle within the town follows not merely from the Worswick Notes, *supra*, p. 121, but from municipal entries to which I have been obligingly referred by a former Mayor of Stafford, Mr. William Jones, who has long been occupied in tracing the annals of his native town. Thus the Bayliffe and Burgesses (18 June, 10th E. IV.) grant to John Norbury and his heires one parcel of ground lying between Old Castle Hill and a way leading into the meadows, reserving 6*d.* rent; also again, 10th March, 9 Eliz., they grant to Oliver Woodhouse a piece of ground lying on the east side of the Castle Hill at the Broad eye. (Salt Transcript, pp. 231-2.)

The Stafford knot is apparent upon the arms of two of the Borough Seals ("Staff. Coll.," Vol. III., 2nd Part, and Speed's map.) On the arms of the town of Stafford in the College of Arms a figure represents a square castle in perspective, with four round towers, two Stafford knots are in chief, whilst one lion passant guardant is at the base, clearly intended to denote an ascendancy of the Ducal family in the town, where the king had been dominant before, for on an older seal of the borough (*ibid.*) a castle was represented as surrounded by lions (five) alone. But even the first Earl, according to Worswick, "seemed to regard the borough as his" (*supra*, p. 59). This illusive view the Royal Commissioners encountered with the emphatic asseveration (p. 105), that "the towne of Stafforde . . . contynually aforetime harth bene the kinggs towne, albeit the benefits in the same and landes lying aboute it wer the late Duke of Buckingham."

A very small volume in the Salt Library, entitled "Ioachimi Perionii de vitis Apostolorum liber," A.D. 1552, has on the title page the signature of Edward Stafford, grandson of the last Duke, and at the end the following strange statement in the same hand of the 16th century: "The town of Stafford being once caulled Bethney, was chaungid at the building of Stafford Castle to the name of the Lord of the Castle, that is to say, Rauf Earle of Stafford!" So persistent was the pretension or self-deception of the Staffords.

Appendix B, p. 2, paragraphs 1 and 2; and see also p. 74.

EXTRACT FROM PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE BARONIES CLAIMED BY SIR WILLIAM JERNINGHAM. PRINTED FOR PRIVATE USE, AUGUST, 1807.

The humble petition of Sir William Jerningham, of Cossey, in the county of Norfolk, Baronet, claiming to be Baron of Stafford, sheweth, etc. (here the descent from the conquest is set forth, and then) Robert de Stafford, that is, the fourth feudal chief, the petition proceeds to say, "was seised of the honor or baronial estate of Stafford, of which the *manor of Stafford and castle of Stafford* now in the possession of the petitioner *were or one of them was the head,*" etc.

The patent granted by King Charles the first to Mary, sister and heir of Henry Lord Stafford, and her husband, Sir William Howard, Knt. of the Bath, is referred to in the petition, from which it appears that "the *manor of Stafford* had been from *ancient time head of the aforesaid barony, together with the castle of Stafford there parcel of the aforesaid manor,*" etc.

Appendix D, p. 3, par. 2.

Suivant Brodeau, ce qui forme le château est une basse cour avec des fossés, un pontlevis, une grosse tour carrée & un moulin au bras audedans. Le Seigneur châtelain qui n'a point de château, peut quand bon lui semble, en faire construire un, sans que ses sujets puissent l'en empêcher. . . . Il n'y avait anciennement que les grand vassaux de la couronne qui eussent droit de bâtir des châteaux ou maisons fortes : ils communiquèrent ensuite ce droit à leurs vassaux, et ceux-ci le communiquèrent aux arrière-vassaux. (Répertoire Universel et raisonné du Droit ad verb. Château.)

The laws of "6 Août, 1793, and that of 13 pluviôse" directed the demolition of castles throughout France within two months, except where necessary for national service, *ibid.*

Appendix D, p. 3, par. 3.

"These castles which were so soon run up were probably built of wood, protected by the steep hills on which they were situated, and by a circle of walls, or sometimes too with deep ditches and ramparts which were made of the earth dug out of the ditches. There were others of which the chief defence was the water with which they were inclosed, being placed in low grounds, which had running streams in abundance, and these were called moats, from whence we derive the word moats." (Lord Lyttleton's "Life of King H. II.," Vol. IV., p. 287.)

Confer. A. Sax. Chron. ad annum 1137.

Appendix E, p. 7, par. 1.

In the 11th year of E. II., Randle Basset was Governor of Stafford Castle. (Shaw's "Staffordshire," Vol. II., p. 44 ; S. P. Wolverston's Notes to Shaw, p. 291.) A few years later the Constable of Stafford Castle had to proclaim the flight of Mortimer. ("Parliamentary Writs," Vol. II., 17 E. II.) The King's gaol of Stafford and the King's gaol of the Castle of Stafford are expressions equivalent to one another. (Patent 44 E. III., m. 17 *in dorso*. 48 E. III., m. 6 *in dorso*.) So of the delivery of prisoners in the King's gaol of the Castle of Stafford, 19 E. III., m.

The King of his grace for the good service which Henry de Stafford had done for a long time past and should do in the future, granted to him the office of the gaol of the King's town of Stafford (*officium gaolæ villæ nostræ de Stafford*), to have for his whole life in the same manner as William de London had the same during his life ; dated at Westminster, the 13th day of November. (Pat. 34 E. III., m. 14.)

By patent of 1 E. 4, m. 13 *dorso*, at York, the 12th May, the King commands John Bourghchier de Berners, Knt., Robert Harecourt, Knt., Walter Blount, William Milton, William Harecourt, John Harecourt, and John Seinbarbe (Saint Barbe), each and every one of them, to enter and seize into the King's hands the Castle of Eglesdale, and the town and Castle of Stafford, and all the goods and chattels there which belonged to Henry late styling himself

King of England, or to Margaret his consort, or to his son Edward, and to keep the same until the King should ordaine otherwise.

So it was that in the following reigns commissions of gaol delivery were delivered on the 28th June, 1 Ric. III., 1483-4, to Humphrey Starkey, Knt., Chief Baron of Exchequer, Thomas Tremayle, and Humphrey Conyngesby, for Stafford Castle, which could be no other castle than the King's in Stafford, for the ducal castle was still in the hands of its owner, who had not yet been attainted; indeed, from the commissions of gaol delivery in the Appendix to the 4th Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, at p. 140, we find out of thirty places serving as gaols, fifteen castles at Cambridge, Bedford, Colchester, Exeter, Gloucester, Hereford, Hertford, Launceston, Norwich, Oxford, Sarum Old, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Winchester, and Worcester.

Dugdale's suspicion of the first Robert de Stafford having been Sheriff, and been called so from having been Governor of the Castle, is strengthened by a remark of Mr. Wilkins ("Archæol.," Vol. XII., p. 144), who found that royal castles were frequently committed to the Sheriff, who was called Custos, or Keeper of the Castle; but Barons, he says, were called Constables of the Castles, and exercised royal power within their jurisdiction, which Sheriffs never did without a special writ for so doing.

So the King (Close Rolls, *ad annum* 1221, m. 16) directs the Barons of his Exchequer to allow to the Sheriff of Staffordshire the 5 marks bestowed by him upon works at the Gaol of Stafford. The connection of Sheriff and Royal Castle may have prevailed, in fact, long before it was prescribed by the 7th article of the Assize of Clarendon:—

"Et in singulis comitatibus [in] quibus non fuerint gaiolæ fiant in burgo vel in aliquo castello domini regis, vel [de] bosco ejus si prope fuerit vel de alio bosco propinquiori, per visum servientium regis, ad hoc, ut vicecomites in illis possint illos qui capti fuerint per ministros et servientes suos custodire." The utility of this law must have been popularly appreciated, for later in the year 1389, when the King had withdrawn castles from such employment, their restoration to the service of the different Sheriffs became, as appears from the following Petition, the successful reason which led to their recall:—

"A nostre Sieur le Roy, supplient ses liges Communes en ceste present Parlement, come diverses Chasteaux en diverses parties d'Engleterre furent et ont esté de tout temps appartenantz et ajoutez as offices des Viscontés, pour faire lour offices, et avoir lour gaole illoeges pour gardir lour prisons, tanqueore tarde, que nôtre dit Sieur le Roy ad grante la garde des pluours des ditz Chasteux as diverses gentz a terme de vie par procurement, par ont les ditz Viscontes n'ont nulle lieu en certain de faire lour offices, ne de gardir les prisons, a lour grant desease et damage du pays. Qe please a nôtre dit sieur grantir que les ditz Chasteux purront estre rejointz as offices des Viscontes avant ditz, en eovre de charité, et pour profit de vôtre Roialme." (Rolls of Parlt., Vol. III., p. 275.) A.D. 1389.

Appendix E, p. 8, last par.

Before the 34th year of his reign, King Henry VIII. had ordered, under the authority of a statute and by proclamation, the sanctuary which had existed

in Manchester to be removed, first to Chester and then to the King's vill of Stafford. The King heard from the Sheriff that his castle and gaol which had been properly taken as a prison for the Courts of Stafford, is situated within the said vill, and that an ambiguity had arisen whether the said castle and gaol should be received as part of the sanctuary of the said vill. The King then proceeded to say that it was not, nor had it ever been, his intent that the said castle and gaol should be, or be reputed to be, any part of the sanctuary of the aforesaid vill. Such is the purport of the instrument which follows.

PATENT OF KING H. VIII.

Henricus Dei gratia, etc. Vicecomiti Staffordiæ salutem. Licet nuper Virtute cujusdam Actus parlamenti per breve nostrum tibi inde directum proclamari fecimus quod Villa nostra de Stafford infra Ballivam esset Villa Sanctuarii et quod Felones, Transgressores, et alii Malefactores illuc fugientes haberent Tuition et privilegium ibidem juxta Vim Formam et effectum Actûs et proclamationis prædict. ac aliorum Statutorum et Legum Regni nostri Angl. et cum ex Testimonio tuo et aliorum fide dignorum ligeorum accepimus quod *Castrum et Gaol* nostrum pro prisonibus in comitatu tuo captis et capiendis situatum sit *infra Villam prædictam* et quod quædam *ambiguitas orta est utrum dictum castrum & gaola*, pro parcella sanctuarii villæ prædictæ acciperetur, etc., sciatis, etc., quod non est nec unquam fuit intentio mea quod *prædictum Castrum sive Gaiola* esset vel reputaretur aliqua parcella Sanctuarii prædicti, etc. Dat. 3^o die Augusti, a^o. regni nostri 34^o.

Thus the castle *and* gaol, and castle *or* gaol, are names of the same structure, and *within*¹ the King's vill of Stafford, but the King declares that he never intended (i.e., by his proclamation, which substituted Stafford for Chester as a place of sanctuary) that his castle or gaol should serve as part of the sanctuary.

The castle and gaol mentioned in this Patent cannot be in any way understood as meaning the Staffords' on the Hill, first because the instrument itself mentions the castle and gaol as being situated within the town of Stafford, and secondly because the Staffords' Castle forfeited to the King by the last Duke had been granted previously to the attainted Duke's son, Henry Lord Stafford and Ursula his wife. (See the Patent, second part, for the 23rd year of the reign of King Henry VIII.)

Appendix E, p. 11, par. 1.

In the more ancient times "Castel" did not necessarily mean of Roman origin, for Leland, "Collect.," Vol. II., p. 302, cites from the ancient chronicle of Malmesbury the text "sub castello de Bladon quod Saxonice vocabatur Ingelburne Castel, quod castellum constructum fuit a quodam rege Britanico."

The word "Castle" is certainly of wide application; so the Manor House of Macclesfield, which had come to the hands of Edward Stafford Duke of

¹ I translate *infra* within, according to the universal mediæval usage; see Duchesne *in voce*.

Buckingham, was called in the sixteenth century "the manor, castell, or capital messuage of Macclesfield" (see Earwaker's "East Cheshire," Vol. I., p. 476); but in 1398 John de Macclesfield had obtained from Rich. II. licence to crenellate it, *ibid.*

What has been said of the early centuries in France applies to Norman England. "War," says Guizot, "was everywhere; naturally the monuments of war, and the means to wage it or repel it, were everywhere too. Not only did they build castles, they converted all things into fortresses and places for defence. Towards the eleventh century, at Nîmes, in France, a company styled of the 'Arenes' seized for their habitation the Roman amphitheatre; the Arenes still exist to this day. It was easy to fortify places fortresses in themselves already. This is not an isolated fact; most of the ancient circuses, that at Arles included, were used similarly and occupied as if they had been castles for some time. Monasteries and churches were equally fortified. They were garnished with towers, ramparts, and fosses, and sedulously guarded; they sustained long sieges. Burghers did as did the nobles. Their villas and bourgs were fortified; children were stationed as sentinels in the bell towers of churches to scan what was passing in the distance, and to announce the approach of an enemy. Alas! sometimes he was in the vill itself, in a neighbouring street."

Appendix F, p. 6, middle of p. 8, par. 1.

We know Ralph de Toeni the hereditary standard bearer did not bear the standard at Hastings. Ordericus tells us that Turstin son of Rollo did. ("Hist.," B. III., ch. 14.) In the "Roman de Rou," Vol. II., p. 195, we learn why. A life of the historian is prefixed to Mr. Prévot's edition of Orderic's chief work; as this has been often cited in the preceding pages, his claim to speak with authority should be made clearer.

"It fell to my lot," says Vitalis, "a stranger and an Englishman, coming here" (to the Abbey of St. Evroult in Normandy) "when only ten years old, from the furthest borders of Mercia, and rude of speech and manners, in the midst of a people full of intelligence, to compose, by God's help, a narrative of Norman events and transactions for the use of Normans."

Vitalis had made journeys to Worcester and Croyland; at the latter place he wrote at the request of the Monks a Latin epitaph on Earl Waltheof. Another motive may have incited him to this, for a benefactor of his Abbey, R. de Toeni, had married the daughter of Waltheof. Vitalis' biography furnishes us with the following dates: He was born the 15th or 16th February, 1075, at Attingham (Atcham) on the Severn. He received his name from his sponsor, a noble Saxon priest named Siward, who also baptized him.

1080 æt. 5, was sent to school at Shrewsbury, where, under the same Siward, he learnt reading, grammar, and church chants.

1085 æt. 10, his father sent him to St. Evroult Abbey in Normandy; he never afterwards saw his father.

1086 received the tonsure on St. Vitalis' day, and assumed the saint's name.

1091 at the Abbot's request, he was received as sub-deacon; and

1093 received as deacon.

1107 æt. 32, he was ordained priest with 120 others.

1141 or 1142 he died.

He had as fellow inmate for many years at St. Evroult, Goisbert, favourite physician of Roger de Toeni. By Goisbert's intervention the Abbey of St. Evroult obtained from Ralph de Conches two estates in England.

Appendices G and X, p. 9, par. 2; p. 12, par. 6; p. 27, par. 1.

Compare the Patent of H. VIII., *supra*, App. E.

Appendix G, p. 9, par. 3.

It is true that there is ground to assign different ancient sites to castles within the town both of Saxon and of Norman origin.

To which does the "vetus" castellum of the Routon Cartulary ("Staffordshire Coll.," Vol. IV., pt. 1, p. 291) apply? It tells us that in the reign of Ed. II. John son of Geoffrey the Sellarer of Stafford held a house in a street there, then and now called Mill Street. He charged it (*inter alia*) with the annual payment of 2s. to the Convent of Routon. The house he described not merely by the name of the street, but by a double vicinity, for it was adjacent to the house of Philip the Chaplain, and near to the lane (venella) that led to the old castle, "vetus castellum." This cannot mean the castle on the hill a mile off, for the inquisitions *p.m.* ignore its then existence, but from the context it would be in the town itself, for the "venella" or lane there led to it. This vetus castellum may have been at the Castle Hill, and therefore the ancient Saxon fortress, the memory of which is spoken to by Sir Simon Degge (*supra*, p. 136), or it suggests the Norman structure supposed to be more to the north, where was afterwards the gaol. Mill Street, near to where stood the two houses above mentioned as the Sellarer's and the Chaplain's, is now crossed by a new road leading to the railway station, which cuts off from Mill Street a bifurcation of old lines of communication now known severally as Cherry Street and Earl Street. The former as well as Mill Street is a somewhat winding way, leading to the Castle Hill at the foot of Broad Eye, whereas Earl Street (which could not have been so denominated until the first creation of an Earl *tempore* E. III.) joins at right angles another winding lane, now called Queen Street, which on the left hand leads to Castle Hill just mentioned, though by a somewhat more circuitous route than Cherry Street, whilst on the left it leads to the alleged site of the old gaol and gaol gate. The "vetus castellum" is alluded to again by one who appears to have been conversant both with manor and borough, *i.e.*, Mr. Worswick (*supra*, p. 121). He mentions the Bearecroft in villa Castri, leading from the castle of Stafford town to Billington, but the text does not show to what date this refers.

Appendix H, p. 35, par. 3.

Walter Chetwynd was closely connected with the Bagots (his mother was a Bagot); it appears from his Collections, now belonging to the Earl of Shrewsbury, that he was in the habit of conversing or corresponding with

Bagot upon questions of their family antiquities. The five volumes of the Chetwynd's "Staffordshire Collections," reduced to their present order by William Hamper, contain several papers pursuing the story of the Bagots of Hyde. These different papers are substantially the same. But the subsequent account in the history of Pirehill Hundred by Walter Chetwynd is clearer than the previous accounts above alluded to. As this history of Pirehill Hundred is to appear in its entirety under the editorship of the Rev. F. P. Parker, as an issue of the W. Salt Archæological Society, I refrain from inserting here the account there given of the Bagots of Hyde.

Appendix I, p. 41, par. 2.

The description referred to in p. 41 is in a Petition of Henry Lord Stafford to King E. VI., praying for certain specified grants. It was not merely signed, but has his Lordship's seal attached. Mr. Gough had obtained a copy (see Gough MS. in the Bodleian). As it has never been printed, only the gross value, £44 8s. 2d., appearing in the Charities Report of the county of Stafford, 1839, at p. 823, it is given below from a transcript in the Salt Library:—

EXTRACT FROM "MINISTERS ACCOUNTS," 2 ED. VI.

Comit. Stafford. Parcell. possessionum nuper Collegii sive Eccles. Collegiat. Stafford. in Comit. prædict. modo dissolut.

	£	s.	d.
Domo Mansionis Decani Collegii prædicti. et gardin. adjacent in tenura Robert Cotterell ad volunt.	0	13	4
Duabus pasturis vocat. the Dean's Fields infra Paroch. vocat. Castle Paroch. infra vill. Stafford modo in tenurâ Will. Staumford Gener. ad volunt.	2	13	4
Uno prato in paroch. prædict vocat. the Dean's Meadow, modo in tenurâ Edm. Mills et Francis Dorington	2	3	4
Decimis fœni, granorum, lanæ, agnorum et porcellorum, ac aliis decimis minutis de Forbridge in Paroch. prædict.			
Decimis granorum fœni, lanæ, agnorum et porcellorum et aliis decimis minutis Vill. de Burton et Rickerscoat et decimis granorum fœni et Herbagii camporum vocat. <i>Hide Fields</i> in parochia prædicta modo occupat. per Will. Staumford gener. ad voluntat: in toto	11	6	8
Decimis granorum fœni et omnis mod. aliis decimis cujusdam Firmæ vocat. the Lees in paroch: prædict. modo occupat. per Johan Backhouse ad val.	0	6	8
Decimis granorum fœni et herbag. camporum vocat. the Cross-fields in paroch. predict. modo occupat per Will. Staumford Generos: ad volunt.	1	0	0
Decimis granorum fœni et herbag. diversar terrarum. prat. et pastur. Thomas Salte in paroch. prædict. modo existen in tenurâ ejusdem Thomæ. ad volunt.	0	5	0

	£	s.	d.
Decimis granorum et fœni divers. terrar. prati et Pastur. Will. Collyns in paroch. prædict. modo occupat. per eundem Will. ad voluntat.	0	16	0
Decimis Herbage Parci Stafford prope Stafford in paroch. prædict. modo in tenurâ Henrici Domini Stafford ad volunt.	0	13	4
Decimis molendinor. aquaticorum de Stafford in paroch. prædict. in tenura Will. Shaw Molendinar. ibid. ad voluntatem	0	13	4
Uno closo (clauso) sive crofto vocat le Dean's Croft ibid. et cæmeterio Eccles. paroch. de Castle prædict. modo in tenura Johni Frenchman ad volunt.	0	8	0
Decimis granorum fœni et Herbag. certarum terr. in tenura Will. Staumford generos. in paroch. prædict. vocat Rowley modo occupat. per eund. Will. advolunt.	0	13	4
Unam parcella terræ arabilis in Hopton in parochiâ Beatæ Mariæ Stafford in tenurâ Johan Walker ad voluntatem	0	6	8
Decimis fœni et granor. de Hopton prædict. in com. prædict. modo in tenurâ Will. Staumford ad volunt.	7	13	4
Decimis lanæ, agnorum, porcellar. et aliis decimis minut. de Hopton prædict. modo in tenurâ ejusd. Will. Staumford ad volunt.	1	0	0
Decimis omnimodis Vill. de Tillington in paroch. Beatæ Mariæ de Stafford in com. prædict. modo in tenurâ Rich. Ward ad volunt.	5	13	4
Possessiones Decanat. Collegii sive Eccles. Collegiat. prædict. valent per annum in (toto)	44	8	0

This enumeration not only preserves the then names of certain fields and their owners or occupiers, but gives the first use of the expression "Castle Parish" which I have met with.

Three of the places are not in Castle Church. The account concludes with private tithes and free Easter offerings of Castle Church aforesaid, which amounted on an average to £1 6s. 8d.

Lord Stafford does not seem to have intended to confound the tithes of fields called "High Fields" with those of Fields styled Hide; the latter are at present enumerated as belonging to Coppenhall in its Tithe Reference book, whereas those of Hide or High Fields, nearer Rowley than Hide, are in Castle Church Parish.

P. 100, note.

EXTRACT FROM DEPOSITIONS.

Proof of the age of Edmund, son of Nicholas Baron de Stafford, deceased, 22 E. I., m. 152, Salt MS., p. 285.

The heir was born and baptized at Maddelye (*sic*) in the county of Stafford. There was no opposition on the parts of the guardians who had been duly summoned. The first witness was Nicholas, Prior of St. Thomas near Stafford, who says that the said Edmund was born at Madeleye in the co. of Stafford on the day of St. Edith the Virgin, viz., on the 25th of July

in the first year of the reign of the now king Edward, and he says that he knows the fact from these circumstances, when he heard the rumour of the birth of the same Edmund, he saw him, and the said Edmund was baptized in the Church of Madeley.

William de Elmedon, Chaplain and Rector of the Church of Weston, sworn and diligently examined as to the age of the aforesaid Edmund, confirms what the Prior says of the day and place of birth, and knows it from this circumstance, that a certain Lord (Dominus) Richard de Stretton, Knight, took to wife Roesia the sister of the said Nicholas, Baron de Stafford, the aunt of the aforesaid Edmund, and on the feast of St. Edith the Virgin next before the birth of the said Edmund, she the said Roesia was brought to bed of a daughter called Johanna, who was 22 years of age on the feast of St. Edith last past, and he likewise remembers that the said Edmund was born on the feast of St. Edith the Virgin next after the Eyre of the Lord Ralph de Hengham and his fellow justices in the co. of Stafford immediately before the death of the Lord King Henry father of the present King.

Roger de Pyweltesdon, Knight, confirms what the Prior had said, adding that Nicholas father of the said Edmund had despatched letters to him the said Roger, praying him to come to Madeley to bear the said Edmund to the font; and though he went thither speedily, he found that the said boy had been already baptized.

Henry de Cressewell, Knight, confirms the testimony of the last witness; he knows the birth took place on the day of St. Edith next before the Eyre aforesaid.

Hugh de Weston, Knight, agrees to what the Prior had said as to day and place, adding that immediately after the birth, the father, Nicholas, had come to the house of the said Hugh's father at Weston, and informed him that he had just got a son.

William Trumwyne, Knight, and Robert de Pype, Knight, agree to what Hugh de Weston had said, and the cause of his knowledge.

William de Stafford, Knight, also agrees, and adds that he was at Madeley on the morrow of the birth of Edmund, and saw him before he was baptized.

William de Wrottesley agrees to what Hugh de Weston had said of day and place, and adds that certain servants of the said Baron of Stafford were journeying on the morrow of the birth of the aforesaid Edmund from Madeley to Weston, and they came to the house of Hugh de Wrottesley, the father of the aforesaid William, and there related the birth of the said Edmund.

Robert le Marshall agrees also with Hugh de Weston, and says that he remembers Gilbert le Marshall his father dying sixteen years since on the feast of the Purification of the Virgin Mary, and that he then said that the aforesaid Edmund was four years old on the feast of St. Edith the Virgin next before the death of his said father Gilbert and he said that the said Gilbert his father was very familiar with the said Nicholas.

Hugh de Chauldon agrees with what William Stafford had said, and adds that he was himself at Madeley when the said Edmund was baptized.

Robert Gerveys, on the other hand, agrees to what Hugh de Weston had said, and knows it from the circumstance that on the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist next before the birth of the aforesaid Edmund, he the

said Robert by his writing demised to one William de Aspilyt a certain meadow in Powemor (? Podmore) for the term of twenty-one years; and he says that at the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist then last past, the said term expired, and the aforesaid William then returned to the said Robert his aforesaid writing. *See Addenda.*

P. 1, par. 3; p. 11, par. 5.

Bethenei was an ancient name for Stafford; s. Plot, "Natural History of Staffordshire," ch. x, s. 28; Camden, "Britannia," ed. Gough, pp. 426, 510; s. the name in *Mapes de Nugis Curialium Distinctio secunda*, ch. xxii, ed. Camd. Soc.

Sir Simon Degge's note to Plot's "Staffordshire" as to the etymology of the place name, Stafford, seems after all the best that has been given. For an Anglo-Saxon host of immigrants coming this way through the Elbe, would have passed on its left bank in the territory of a kindred race a station bearing the very name Stade. It is opposite to Altona, and still retains this appellation. It has no ford; the Elbe flows deep, broad, and rapid by it. The adventurers settling, we suppose, by the Sow, upon an ancient Celtic fiord or way where the river was readily fordable, following the national usage, united the two meanings and words, and named their new home Stadeford or Stadford, or Statford, and so we find the name written in many ancient documents and generally in Domesday Book. Obeying similar sentiments another body of settlers had affixed the same local appellation to a place still called Stafford in Dorsetshire.

Appendix K, p. 1, par. 1.

"Ea tempestate, A.D. 527, venerunt multi et sæpe de Germania et occupaverunt East Angle et Merce. sed necdum sub uno rege redacti erant. Plures autem procures certatim regiones occupabant, unde innumerabilia bella fiebant procures vero, quia multi erant, nomine carent."—Henrici Huntendunensis Hist. Anglorum, Liber II.

Appendix K, p. 1, par. 2.

"In Northumbria the first King Ida reigned twelve years, and built Bamborough, which was at first inclosed by a hedge and afterwards by a wall."—Anglo Saxon Chronicle, ad annum 547.

The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle tells us that Ethelfleda constructed the "Burh" Stafford. This Saxon word Burh Bede renders [Hist. Ecc. 3 B. 19] by the Latin word *urbs*. "Erat autem monasterium constructum in castro quodam, quod lingua Anglorum 'Cnobheresburg,' i.e., *urbs Cnobheri vocatur quod*," etc. But in King Alfred's translation of Bede's History we have the passage, "ceastre, that is named in English Gneoferisburgh" (Ceastre seo is nemmed on Englisc Gneoferesburh).

The early origin of the town of Stafford is also suggested by the ancient custom prevalent there of Borough English alluded to by Erdeswick, ed.

Harwood, p. 144, which the contrivances of modern conveyancing have almost obliterated. So the will of Robert Whitgreave, Esquire, of Burton, dated 1550, to which Robert Harcourt and William Stamford, Esquires, were "supervysors," alludes to that historical custom in the following words: "The resydue of my lands not gyven withyne the seyd tounne and borrow of Stafford aforesayd I will shall remayne to George Whytgreve my youngest son and hys heyres for ever according to the custome there."

Appendix M, p. 43, par. 5; p. 44, par. 1.

See the charters mentioned at pp. 43 and 44 at large in Salt MS. 429.

Appendix N, p. 42, paragraphs 2 and 3.

The property once the Austins Friars which fell to the Stamfords, *supra*, 42, was described in their Inquisitions, seemingly as "Rowley man. cum pertin., Stafford le Fryez Orshyard, le Freyers feild et prat. adjacent et scitum precinct nuper domus fratz Augustin de Stafford cum tot cæmeterio ib: continuo de rege in capite pro 100 pt. f. m." (See *Inq. p.m.* Stamford Rob., ob. 4 Jac.) See Addenda.

Appendix O, p. 20, par. 4; p. 38, par. 1.

Extracts from the Subsidy Rolls of 6 E. III., etc., were to have been here inserted, but are suppressed owing to their being printed in the "Staffordshire Collections," Vol. VIII., Pt. 1; and see *supra*, p. 24.

Appendix P, p. 44. Stafford Rent Rolls. See Appendix U, p. 8.

Appendix R.

Ordericus Vitalis shows us that William the Conqueror was once, perhaps twice, in the county at the head of a victorious army. The Burton Register has preserved a similar fact with respect to Henry I., Stephen, and Henry II. King John was in the county several times, and King Henry III. also, as appears from the testes of their Patents; and Edward was here as Prince, and borrowed money in Stafford.

The learned editor of the "*Gesta Henrici II.*" has added in his Appendix an outline itinerary of this monarch, from which it appears that the monarch was in the vicinity of Staffordshire, and probably in it, in the summer of the year 1155; and in July, 1157, he was at Tamworth; then the next possibilities of his having visited the county are in 1164, when he held a great council at Northampton of all the tenants *in capite*, and in the spring of 1165, when there was an expedition to Wales, and he was at Chester. His last visit was in 1175, when he was in July at Lichfield.

Appendix U, p. 81, par. 5.

MEMORANDUM BY WILLIAM HAMPER TO THE INDENTURE BETWEEN RALPH DE STAFFORD AND THE MASON FOR BUILDING STAFFORD CASTLE. (See *supra*, p. 81.)

"The agreement, it is true, is in the French of that period, but the mason himself (John de Burcestre) was no doubt an Englishman, deriving his name from Burcestre, now Bicester, a town in Oxfordshire."—William Hamper.

EXTRACT FROM THE GREAT CARTULARY AT BLITHFIELD, FOLIO 236 (BUT WHICH SEEMS NOT QUITE IN EXACT FORM).

Dominium de Stafford cum membris	Stafford Manerium	Valor ejusdem anno 35 H. VIII. Et valet de claro xxxiiij.li. xiiij.d.
firma Manerii in omnibus, pratis pasturis per . . .	Holdyche	valet in omnibus lxvj.s. iiij.d.
Rents of Assize, Frithfee, Firm of Mills, Wakefee, Tenements in manu domini, Redd. Moert (?), Lychfield	Stafford Rents, Redd. resol. iiij.xx. xviiij.li. xviiij.d.	et valet de claro lxxix.li. xiiij.s. iiij.d. ob.

FFORBEIGGE.

Valet in finibus, sect, et per annum lx.li. iiij.s.	Stipendia, lxiiij.s.	Et valet de claro xxxj.s. Et valet de claro xxxj.s.
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Burton-on-the-Mores (*sic* Norton ?), xvij.li. vij.s. vij.d.

Bylington,

xxij.li.

The opinion of Sir Orlando Bridgeman, 2nd September, 1672, embodies interesting facts as to the general condition of the estates and of the restored lands, although the King's Pool is the principal subject. The opinion is amongst the Stafford MSS. at the Castle, *supra*, p. 23. It tells us as follows.

"The Lord Stafford's ancestors *temp.* E. III. were seised of the Castle and rents of Stafford.

Afterwards, 24 E. III., the King grants King's Pool and the mill now built to Raph Stafford, one of the ancestors, and 2 markes rent, which poole lyes within the precincts of the towne or Borough of Stafford.

The Earles of Stafford after purchase several more lands and rents in the towns of Stafford, Bradley, Lichfield, Fazeley, and several other towns in the county of Stafford, from severall persons, all which with the King's Pool went under the name of Stafford Manor and Stafford Rents, and were severed from the Manor of Stafford ; and in the Ministers' accounts of the Earles of Stafford went under a distinct head, there being one distinct title for the Manor of Stafford, another for Stafford Rents, and under the head of Stafford went the King's Pool, and those after lands purchased from others in Stafford, Lichfield, and several other places were accounted for ; and thus it continued for many

years before and at the time of the attainder of Ed. Stafford Duke of Buckingham, 13 H. VIII., by which all came to the Crown.

15 Julii, 23 H. VIII. The King grants to Henry Lord Stafford and Ursula his wife, and the heirs of their bodies, "Castrum et manerium de Stafford cum pertinentibus in com. Stafford necnon Manor vocat Stafford Manerium et Stafford Redditus in dicto Com. ac omnia, terras tenementa prata pascua pasturas et servitia in villa & burgo de Stafford necnon omnia et omnis modi Boscos stagna, aquas, piscarias, molendina, vivaria, etc., et Commoditates quascunque dictis Castro Manerio ac ceteris præmissis et eorum alteri pertinentibus sive spectantibus, ac advocacionem Capellæ St. Nicholai infra parcom de Stafford. And further grants other lands to them, quæ quidem castrum, etc., Manor & Stafford Reddit. ac dicta Maneria de Essington, etc., fuere Edwi nuper Ducis Buck.

Sir Orlando Bridgeman further remarks as to Edward Lord Stafford (*temp.* 2 Jac. I.), that he was a known wasteful man."

SUNDRY MEMORANDA AS TO TITHES.¹

The tithes from Stafford Great Park and Stafford Little Park and Broomfield near the Castle belonged to the Deanery of Stafford.

Whereas to the free Chapel of St. Nicholas belonged all the tithes, prædial, personal, etc., obventions, collections, alms, fees, etc., from land lying and being within the said chapel (i.e., chapelry); and also all tithes, etc., issuing out of or charged upon all the inhabitants within the said Castle; also out of lands called Castle Street and Castle fields.

On the 21st January, 15 James (1617), a lease for seventy years of the tithes of St. Nicholas was granted to Thomas Forster, late of Tonge, Norton, co. Salop, Gent., and to Tho. Coxill and Sir Thomas Peahall, of Horley, and others.

A partition is there mentioned between Lord Stafford and Wm. Crompton, Esq., as also that one-ninth part of the Deanery was assigned to Lord Stafford.

Appendix U, p. 85, note; p. 92, par. 1.

REMARKS COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. EDWARD ALLEN, VICAR OF CASTLE CHURCH, 1ST DECEMBER, 1886.

Note to p. 85. I make out with certainty, though very pale, the following heading of the oldest Register Book: "The Regyster book of the pys[h] (parish) of our Lady called the Castell church under the Castell of Stafford beyone by me, John Cockes, curate there for the years of our Lord God 1567."

In note 1, p. 86, after Silkmore may be added, and part of Littleworth [which, though beyond Stafford, was part of the old entire parish of Castle Church, and still is of St. Paul's].

¹ What follows I noted down some years ago, and I think from the "Stafford Collections," *supra*, p. 23, but I am not certain, and cannot verify.

"Moricus de Creon, omnibus hominibus suis francis et Anglicis salutem. Sciatis me dedisse Thomæ fil. Willmi in feodum & hereditatem totam terram quam pater suus Willmus tenuit de patre meo, et de me scilicet in Satebria et in Thoreston pro servicio unius militis. Teste Guido filio meo, Clarice uxore mea, Radulf de Creon, Willmo de Bellind, Lamberto de Muleton, Bodino de Femur." But for the earlier address, "hominibus, &c.," I should attribute it to the reign of Edward I., for in the *Monast.*, p. 922, we find a Mauricius de Croun assisting at the foundation of Vale Royal in Cheshire by Edward, with many nobles of the highest rank. It is true that the ancient record from which Dugdale quotes is dated 1185, but even early records sometimes, like that styled the *Testa de Nevil*, under one title often continue lists without showing change of date. We know, however, that in the 13th century the very ancient name Cruon or Cron appears in Salop (see Eyton's "*Hist.*," p. 67, and 288, note 4), and as at p. 67 there the name is seen in a fine, A.D. 1293, as that of the owner of Burghton (Burton), who with his wife Margaret gives sixty acres to the Vicar of Chirbury, receiving therefor £20, it is not impossible that the Crons held the Manor of Burton near Stafford under the Staffords.

In the Chetw. MSS., Vol. II., p. 131, amongst Sir Tho. Whitgreave's Deeds, we find the two following further abstracts: "Omnibus &c. Agatha, fil. Rob. de Ricardescote sal. &c. noveritis me concessisse &c. Rob. le Paumer de Borton, illud mess. &c. qd. tenui(t?) prædict. Rob. le Paumer." "Universis &c. Frater Willus de Tothall Prior, scs domus Hospital sci Johis Jerlm in Anglia salut. noveritis me assensu & voluntate fratrum totius capituli mei concessisse & confirmasse, etc. Rico le Palmer de Burton & hominibus suis suas terras & quæ de nobis tenet in villa de Burton Reddendo & faciendo nobis & successoribus nris servicia inde debita & consueta. Anno Dom. m.ccc°. Wido the crusader, son of Maurice, and third in descent from the Wido of Domesday Book (see Dugdale, *Baronage*, Vol. I., p. 412), may have taken his name from the place Creton in Lincolnshire, and afterwards holding by knight service Burton in Staffordshire from Robert de Stafford, might call this Burton, Burton Creon, Croun, or Creton, and so leave the service of money and labour mentioned in the *Templars' terrier* to them as issuing from his *caput Baronie* in Lincolnshire.

It lends some force to this contention that the *terrier* couples the Burton out of which the service issued with two other words that seem to correspond with places not distant from Burton near Stafford. But on the other side is the fact that in the Lincolnshire Domesday, p. 367, *verso*, an estate at Burton in that county is ascribed to the first Wido, so that the doubt I expressed *supra* at page 94 is abundantly justified.

Appendix X, see G, p. 9.

Appendix Y, pp. 49, par. 2, and 110, par. 2.

In the Printed Rolls of Parliament, Vol. VI., pp. 325-6, the petition is given of Robert Willoughby, Knight, Elizabeth late wyfe of Johnis Colshull, Knt., and Alienora late wyfe of Thomas Strangwyshe, Squier, Cosyns and heires

of Humfrey Stafford, Knt., late called Lord Southwyk, otherwise called Earl of Devonshire. The petition claimed many manors of which the said Earl had been seised, amongst others those of Penkerych, Pyrton, Lytewode, Hydecopenhale, and Amblecote; these had been settled in *tail male*, but forcibly disturbed by Humfry Stafford, late of Grafton, Squier, supported by his favour, as the petition says, with Richard, late "in deed and not in right," King of England. The prayer of the petitioners was accorded, and themselves put in possession of the aforesaid manors.

Bromshall is not mentioned in the petition above mentioned, but it became the subject of a litigation a few years afterwards. The Erdeswicks having inherited the right of the sole heiress of Sir James Stafford, of Sandon, had held not Sandon only, but Bromshall, from the time when Sir James had died. But it would seem that although Sandon was theirs by express settlement, Bromshall had been settled in *tail male*, and so his brother Sir John Stafford and his heirs male were to be preferred to the heiress who had married Erdeswick, and so the Erdeswicks were at last ousted by Willoughby de Broke, whose representatives still own it. (General Report of the Commissioner of Public Records, Appendix, p. 58, 1837, referring to a special assize, anno 5 H. VIII., between Henry Willoughby de Broke and others, plaintiffs, and Hugh Erdeswick, disseisor; and see Sampson Erdeswick's commentary upon that litigation in the "Antiquities of Staffordshire," ed. Harwood, p. 512, and the pedigree adduced by him in that first Salt MS. (once Mr. Hamper's).)

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